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Japan

Further Reportage on Visit by PRC Official

Zou on Joint Ventures

OW2301114690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1052 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—China's top economic planner said Tuesday that China is ready to change its regulations in order to allow foreigners to head joint venture firms doing business in the country, Japanese officials said. In talks with Director General Sumiko Takahara of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA), Zou Jiahua, head of China's State Planning Commission, also voiced readiness to lift statutes requiring foreign investors in Chinese projects to withdraw 20 to 30 years after they invest, EPA officials said. The officials also quoted Zou as saying that China's economy has been overheating as a result of too fast a growth.

Pointing to worsening inflation at home, Zou told Takahara that China needs to place top priority on fighting inflation from both the domestic and international perspectives, they said. Zou is now on a 10-day official visit here for talks with Japanese Government officials, the first by a senior Chinese official since the military crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square last June.

Kaifu, Nakayama Encourage PRC

OW2301125490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1213 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama both called Tuesday for China's efforts to remove impediments to improved ties with the Western advanced democracies, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said. China's State Planning Minister Zou Jiahua, meeting separately with Kaifu and Nakayama, gave assurances of Beijing's resolve to maintain its reform and open-door policies, the officials said.

Nakayama told Zou that recent progressive steps taken by China are not enough to bring about a return to business as usual with Japan, including the extension of new economic assistance. Officials said Nakayama made the remarks in two hours of meetings with Zou, the most senior Chinese official to visit Japan since high-level contacts were nominally suspended in the aftermath of the pro-democracy crackdown last June.

Nakayama, meeting with Zou prior to his courtesy call on Prime Minister Kaifu, said that various "restrictions" on improved Sino-Japanese ties remain unresolved. Officials noted that Nakayama was speaking against the backdrop of the Chinese Government's decision on January 11 to lift martial law imposed on parts of Beijing and its subsequent release of detained student dissidents. He said that while not meaning to interfere in China's internal affairs, it is "undeniable" that an impression has been spreading that the Chinese Government is tightening its control. It would be "regretful" if that appearance worked to the further detriment of China's international image, thus hindering the country's modernization over the long run, he said.

While not elaborating on the nature of the "restrictions," Nakayama said they are "making it difficult to say that Japan's economic cooperation with China has returned to normal." Nakayama's remarks to Zou came on the heels of a visit to Beijing by a senior Foreign Ministry aid official, Koichiro Matsuura, director general of the Economic Cooperation Bureau. Touching on Matsuura's agreement in Beijing last week to initiate a preparatory process for Japan's promised third package of loans to China totaling 810 billion yen for fiscal 1990-95, Nakayama told Zou that Japan is still not ready to make a "concrete commitment" on the loan. After studying data obtained through the preparatory process, Japan will make its decision after weighing it against the "overall" situation surrounding China, he said. Zou told Nakayama that the two previous packages of yen loans have contributed greatly to his country's development.

In the 20-minute meeting with Zou, Kaifu reinforced Nakayama's message by saying that international society is still looking at China "with a critical eye." But the prime minister said he has been impressing on his Western counterparts that it would be undesirable to see China drift into isolation and into a state of confrontation with the West. Zou pledged that China will steadfastly adhere to its reform and open-door policy, implemented in 1978, which he said has proven its worth by achieving "big results"—building the country economically and raising the people's standard of living.

Nakayama welcomed the Chinese Government's decision to lift martial law as part of its efforts to restore its external relations and as "a sign that the situation in China is becoming stabilized."

The foreign minister revealed that Japan would like to consider holding the Sixth Japan-China 21st Century Friendship Committee meeting "sometime in the spring." After that Japan would like to see a "gradual upgrading" of the level of bilateral contacts to restore normalcy to Sino-Japanese relations, he said.

Over lunch, Zou invited Nakayama to visit China, to which Nakayama responded he would like to avail himself of such an opportunity.

As a Pacific basin country with a deep interest in economic ties in the region, China could use Japan's help in gaining membership in the newly-formed Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum, Zou said. Officials said Nakayama was noncommittal, but quoted him as saying that without China's input it is "meaningless" to talk about Asia-Pacific cooperation. On the Kampuchean conflict, Nakayama asked China to exert its influence on the Khmer Rouge toward a peaceful settlement, but Zou said that China does not have as much influence on the guerrilla group as assumed.

More Condemnation of Nagasaki Mayor Shooting

OW1901123990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0904 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Friday he is worried the attempted assassination of Nagasaki Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima may damage Japan's democratic image abroad.

"I'm mainly concerned that the image of Japan as a nation which cherishes liberty and democracy could be hurt," Nakayama told reporters when asked about the shooting of the controversial mayor by a right-wing group leader Thursday. The foreign minister added that he deeply regretted the incident. The mayor, 67, is reported to be in stable condition and is recovering from the gunshot which pierced his lung and chest.

Kazumi Tajiri, 40, was arrested hours after the shooting at a local hotel, where he was found with the gun allegedly used in the assassination attempt. Tajiri, who leads the Tokyo chapter of the rightist "Seikijuku" group based in Nagasaki, has admitted to shooting Motoshima outside city hall. He did not fully explain his motive, but said he could not tolerate the mayor's comment on Emperor Showa.

Motoshima has been the target of right-wing threats and harassment since telling a city assembly session in December 1988 that the late Emperor Showa was partly to blame for the destruction of Nagasaki by an atomic bomb at the end of World War II. Police stepped up security around the mayor until last December, when Motoshima asked that it be reduced.

Police said Seikijuku, or "The Group of Sanity," has 31 members. Since Motoshima's remarks regarding the Emperor Showa, members of the group have repeatedly driven by city hall in vans to denounce the mayor over loudspeakers. A group member also tossed a smoke bomb at Japan Socialist Party Chairwoman Takako Doi during a rally in June to protest Doi's support for the mayor's stand. The group is also suspected of being behind an earlier incident in which shots were fired at city hall.

Meanwhile, Chief Cabinet Secretary Mayumi Moriyama said publicly that the attack was inexcusable if prompted by Motoshima's comments regarding the late emperor's wartime role. "It cannot be tolerated in the context of freedom and democracy," Moriyama said.

National Police Agency Chief Akio Kanazawa said he is ordering police nationwide to step up surveillance of political extremists following the shooting incident. The police chief said he regretted the possibility that he may have misjudged the seriousness of the right-wing threat to Motoshima. Kanazawa said the increased monitoring of extremist groups was necessary to prevent terrorist acts leading up to a general election expected next month, as well as the emperor's enthronement ceremony set for November. He added that police were searching Seikijuku's office in Nagasaki, as well as Tajiri's home, which serves as the group's Tokyo office.

Meanwhile, the city assembly denounced the shooting and city workers distributed leaflets urging full prosecution of the case. Calls from citizens supporting Motoshima poured into the mayoral secretariat section Friday morning, city officials said.

Toshiko Shinozaki, a Japan Socialist Party member of the House of Councillors from Nagasaki, said at the hospital, "We must never accept any attack on those who have opposing thoughts."

A Nagasaki citizens' group of A-bomb survivors also denounced the attack. "The gun aimed at the mayor is also aimed at Japanese citizens. The emperor's war responsibility is a matter of course if we examine historical facts." Another Nagasaki civic group advocating freedom of speech also called the attack a serious challenge to liberty and democracy in Japan.

In Tokyo, Yohei Kono, a ruling Liberal Democratic Party House of Representatives member, announced the party's stance on the attack, saying any terrorist action is the enemy of democracy. But Shusuke Nomura, a prominent rightist, said in a television program in Tokyo late Thursday night that he did not feel Tajiri's act was "completely criminal" but that it was "partially a patriotic action in defense of the imperial system."

Diet Reconvenes To Pave Way for Dissolution

OW2201044590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0305 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—The Diet was recalled into session Monday from a year-end and New Year recess, paving way for dissolution of the House of Representatives before a general election in February. The 117th ordinary session of the Diet was reopened at 11 a.m. in a ceremony at a plenary session of the House of Councilors, attended by Emperor Akihito.

The Diet Steering Committee in the House of Representatives is to meet in the afternoon to decide to hold a plenary session of the chamber Wednesday to act on a bill calling for special state subsidies for rice farming. The upper house's Diet Steering Committee is also to decide to hold a plenary session Tuesday afternoon on the same bill.

The plenary session of the lower house Wednesday is expected to pass the farm subsidy Bill and hear a report on the scheduled wedding of Prince Aya, second in line to the throne. The lower house speaker will then declare the house dissolved without the policy speech of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and opposition questions, thereby shelving deliberations on the Government's 6.7 trillion fiscal 1990 draft budget, a bill for reviewing the consumption tax, and opposition bills demanding the abolition of the controversial tax. Debate on these bills will take place in an extraordinary session to be convened in late February after the general elections, which are expected to take place on February 18.

The dissolution of the lower house before a policy speech by the prime minister and related opposition questions is unprecedented in the nation's constitutional history.

The consumption tax introduced last April will be a major issue in the elections, in which the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) must clinch 257 of 512 seats in the powerful lower chamber to command a simple majority. The 252-seat upper house is dominated by the opposition camp. An LDP failure to win a majority in the forthcoming elections would stir a major reshuffle in the political arena, including formation of a coalition government, and probable pressure on the prime minister to step down.

Over 900 Candidates Expected in General Election

OW1701182990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1449 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO—A total of 917 candidates will be fielded for the upcoming general election expected to be held on February 18, with opposition parties hoping to topple the one-party hegemony of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in the House of Representatives, according to a survey by KYODO NEWS SERVICE. As of Wednesday, the total number of candidates vying for a seat in the 512-member lower house, including 62 women, the third-highest figure in 10 postwar elections, marks the highest level in 21 years.

It is also the first time in 21 years for the number of new faces to exceed 400. There are 63 politicians, outnumbering the past record of 37 in the 1983 election, who are retiring. They include former Premiers Kakuei Tanaka, Takeo Fukuda, Zenko Suzuki, and some former leaders of opposition parties. That leaves only eight incumbents, all LDP members, who are aged over 78 and belong to the generation which steered postwar Japanese politics.

The opposition camp, which ended the LDP's 34-year dominance in the House of Councillors election last July with the help of women candidates, hopes for a similar outcome in the lower house election. Takako Doi, chairwoman of the No. 1 opposition Japan Socialist Party (JSP), on Wednesday reiterated her determination to form a four-party coalition government by beating the LDP in February. She told a press conference that the JSP will not cooperate with the LDP in the Diet even if the LDP manages to gain a majority in the lower house in the election.

The same day, LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa said in a separate meeting that the LDP would hand over power to an opposition coalition government led by the JSP if it lost its majority in the powerful lower house. There is speculation that the LDP will woo the middle-of-the-road opposition Komeito or the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) to form a coalition government. Some LDP leaders have also called for cooperation with opposition parties even if the LDP gains a majority in the lower house, because the opposition controls the upper house.

Meanwhile, Japan Communist Party (JCP) Chairman Tetsuzo Fuwa in Sapporo on Wednesday said he opposed any move by the opposition camp to tie up with the LDP. "Any opposition party which attempts to aid a scheme aiming at prolonging the LDP's political life will be condemned by the public," Fuwa said.

He proposed to forge an interim government in cooperation with the other opposition parties, which refuse to talk with the communists, to abolish the 3 percent consumption tax, corporate political donations and to oppose liberalization of the rice market. Fuwa said the LDP is using the collapse of the communist leadership in East European nations to attack the JCP and divert attention from the issues in the election.

"The important implication of the East European situation is that the public plays the principle role in putting an end to the LDP monopoly," Fuwa said. LDP sources have said their campaign will stress democracy and a continuation of single-party rule.

Public attention during the campaign is expected to focus on the issue of the consumption tax, foreign policy amid a rapidly changing international climate, and somewhat strained relations with the United States, analysts said.

The LDP is expected to field 270 candidates and the JSP about 160. The total number of candidates expected to be put up by the four-party opposition camp now stands at 269. The election is expected to be officially announced on February 3.

JSP Leader Rejects Cooperation With LDP

OW1701120790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO—Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), on Wednesday reiterated her effort to form a four-party coalition government by beating the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in the upcoming general election. Doi, in a luncheon with reporters at the Japan National Press Club, said the LDP should hand power over to the four opposition parties—JSP, Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and the United Social Democratic Party (USDP)—if the LDP loses a majority of the 512-seat House of Representatives in the election.

Doi said she regrets the JSP was unable to achieve the initial target of fielding 180 candidates. She said the JSP is backing about 160 and that the total number of candidates of the four parties, including the JSP, is currently 269—just 12 above the majority line. She said the JSP would not cooperate with the LDP in the parliament even if the LDP manages to gain a majority in the lower house in the election, which is expected to be held on February 18.

Some LDP leaders have called for cooperation with opposition parties even if LDP gains a majority in the lower house, because the opposition controls the House of Councillors.

Referring to the timing of the dissolution of the lower house, Doi said the issue should be resolved after Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu makes his policy speech and responds to questions from opposition parties. Doi said it is natural in a parliamentary democracy for Kaifu to present his domestic and external policies to the Japanese people prior to the general election.

Shin Kanemaru and other LDP leaders have said they want the lower house dissolved before the traditional policy speech the prime minister makes at the outset of a Diet session. Doi added that the JSP would fight the LDP by raising the controversial issues of the 3 percent consumption tax, rising land prices, old-age pension, an unfair tax system that favors the rich, and peace and security in northeastern Asia.

JSP, Komeito Seek To Hold Four-Party Meeting

OW1701182690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1454 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO—The leaders of Japan's top two opposition parties agreed Wednesday to try holding a meeting of four opposition parties in an effort to topple the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's [LDP] majority in the House of Representatives in the general election expected in February. Japan Socialist Party [JSP] Chairwoman Takako Doi and Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida agreed to continue efforts to bring about the meeting, which also would include Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] chief Eiichi Nagasue and the United Social Democratic Party's [USDP's] Satsuki Eda. Doi and Ishida agreed to hold a meeting this week of election officials of the two parties. But they disagreed on specific campaign tactics.

The LDP occupies 294 of the 512 seats in the lower house which is believed will be dissolved later this month for the election. The Socialists have 84 seats, Komeito 55 and the DSP 28. The USDP has four seats. In the House of Councillors, the opposition jointly controls the chamber as a result of the LDP's defeat at the polls last July.

Ozawa Comments on JSP Victory Scenario

OW1701120690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0640 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO—A top Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) official said Wednesday the ruling party would hand over power to an opposition coalition government led by the Japan Socialist Party if it lost its majority of the House of Representatives in the upcoming general elections.

"Even if we remain the leading party, if we fail to obtain a majority there is no way we will remain in power," LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa told the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations.

"If we lose our majority it will be because the Japan Socialist Party (JSP) has vastly increased its number of seats, and not because Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) have made gains," Ozawa said.

He said the biggest election issue in the lower house election is whether the Japanese people want to enter the 21st century under the leadership of the LDP, or of a government centered on a coalition between the JSP, Komeito, and the DSP. Some analysts have speculated that the LDP would woo the middle-of-the-road opposition Komeito or DSP to form a coalition government if it was defeated at the polls, expected to be called on February 18.

Ozawa urged his audience of some 300 businessmen to work together with labor unions—which traditionally have supported opposition parties— to help the LDP win the 257 seats needed for a majority in the powerful lower house. He said party research shows that 235 LDP candidates are assured of victory, while 35 others will be fighting close races. The date of the election is expected to be set after Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu returns from an 11-day trip to Europe on Thursday.

Ozawa said that after the election relations are likely to become more tense with the United States as America approaches its own mid-term elections in November, and the U.S. media prepares for a "campaign" on the 50th anniversary in December of the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor that marked the start of the Pacific War. America is likely to devote more attention to the attack half a century ago than Japan, Ozawa said, adding that humans survive by "forgetting about bad things that happened in the past."

"This is a crucial time for Japan-U.S. relations," he said, adding a warning that a socialist-led government would "heave the economy into chaos" and have a negative impact on the stock market.

Rash of Fires Set on Tokyo Morning Trains

OW2301024490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0220 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—Early morning trains in Tokyo and the surrounding metropolitan area Tuesday were hit by a rash of small fires in an apparent "guerrilla attack," police said. Remnants of a timing device were found at one site and police suspect that members of any of three protest groups may be responsible for the predawn attacks. In all, seven incidents in Tokyo, Kanagawa, and Chiba Prefectures were reported, but police said there were no injuries and only minor damage. Fires were reported on six East Japan Railways [JR] trains and one on a Keisei Electric Railway line. Although trains were delayed briefly and about 21,000 commuters inconvenienced, the Tuesday morning rush hour was unaffected, JR officials said.

Police said they are considering three groups whose members may have had reason to set the fires. They mentioned opponents of the emperor system protesting a rite held at the Imperial Palace Tuesday in which the dates of the imperial enthronement ceremonies were reported. Also under scrutiny for the attacks are disgruntled members of the JR union, who are unhappy with job security provisions in the recent break-up and privatization of the Japanese National Railways, and opponents to the second phase of construction at the new Tokyo International Airport in Narita, Chiba.

At 5:20 a.m., a small explosion on a Joban Line train between Ueno and Toride, Chiba, ignited a small fire that scorched some of the seats and delayed the train 44 minutes. The fire was quickly brought under control and police found some wire, batteries, and a timer which may have been used to spark the fire. Smoke was reported on JR trains on the Chuo and Nanbu lines at about 5:15 a.m., but conductors on both trains soon doused the fires. An eyewitness on the Chuo line reported seeing two men wearing ski masks and sunglasses throw oil on the train seats and then flee. In other incidents on the JR's Negishi, Yokosuka, and Yokohama lines and the Keisei line in Chiba, smoke was reported but was soon extinguished.

Radicals Claim Responsibility

OW2301114290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1041 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—The Chukakuha or "middle-core" radicals claimed responsibility on Tuesday for an early morning "guerrilla attack" of small fires aboard seven Tokyo trains. The group, in a statement sent later in the day to press organizations in Tokyo, said "We resolutely announce the waging of an unprecedented war to crush the two imperial rites, the Sokui-no-rei, or enthronement ceremony, and the Daijosai, or great food offering ritual."

The statement, titled "Announcement by a Revolutionary Contingent," denounced a series of government measures taken to pave the way for the smooth "enforcement" of the scheduled imperial ceremonies. Emperor Akihito began a year-long series of imperial enthronement rites Tuesday morning when he ritually reported at the relevant palace shrines that the two major rites will take place on November 12 and 22 respectively. The 56-year-old emperor immediately ascended to the throne on January 7 last year upon the death of his father, Emperor Showa, who was 87. Another major imperial ceremony is scheduled in late June when Prince Aya, Emperor Akihito's younger son, marries Kiko Kawashima.

Police said remnants of a timing device were found at one of the fire sites. Seven incidents, six on East Japan Railways [JR] trains and one on a Keisei Electric Railway line, in Tokyo, Kanagawa and Chiba Prefectures, were reported but police said there were no injuries and only minor damage. Trains were delayed by a maximum 44 minutes with 21,000 commuters inconvenienced on the JR lines while the Keisei line suspended operations for 14 minutes, police said. The attacks took place before the morning rush hour.

An eyewitness reported seeing two men wearing ski masks and sunglasses throw gasoline on the train seats and flee.

Australian Official Voices Opinions on Visit

OW1701120990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0732 GMT 17 Jan 90

[By A.H. Yamaguchi]

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO—An Australian Government minister has called for more exchanges of information and communication between Australian and Japanese women. The minister assisting the prime minister for the status of women, Margaret Reynolds, told reporters in Tokyo Tuesday that the number of women participating in government had increased dramatically in both Japan and Australia and that a more regular exchange between women of the two countries is needed to build on the progress women are making. Reynolds said the political participation of women in federal, state, and local governments has grown considerably in Australia during the last five years, and women now comprise 22 percent of the members of the Senate and 6 percent of the House of Representatives.

Reynolds, who began her career as an educator, said the next stage of reform for improving the status of women would involve "changing attitudes and building on those legislative reforms already under way." During her 10-day visit to Japan which ended Wednesday, Reynolds met with Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Japan Socialist Party, Mayumi Moriyama, chief cabinet secretary, and Sumiko Takahara, minister of state and director general of the Economic Planning Agency. She and Doi spoke of the need to promote links between Australia and Japan, the importance of the availability of child care for working women, and the still very low percentage of women in government.

During her visit, Reynolds, also the minister for local government, spoke with the vice governor of Osaka to "discuss future direct flights between Australia and the new Kansai International Airport to be opened in 1993," particularly flights between northern Australia and Osaka. She said flights between the new Kansai International Airport and the international airports in Townsville and Cairns, both in northern Australia, would take 6.5 hours, as opposed to the nine-hour flights between Tokyo and Sydney. These routes would allow Japanese travelers to see some of the greatest Australian sights such as the rain forests and the Great Barrier Reef, which most miss when traveling directly to Sydney, she said.

Questioned about the impact women are having on the Australian Government, Reynolds said, "Increased participation by women meant that greater priority was given to improving the opportunities for women." "In a democracy, the representation in parliament should be broadly representative of the society and therefore at least 50 percent, in the perfect world, should be women," she said. "A democracy should not just focus on one element of the society," she said.

Joint U.S. Industrial Meeting Set for Apr

OW1601105990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1027 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Japan and the United States will hold their first governmental meeting in April in Tokyo to exchange information on each other's industry, aimed at diffusing tension on bilateral trade, a senior Japanese Government official said Tuesday. Details have yet to be adjusted by working-level officials from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and the U.S. Commerce Department, the official said. The planned meeting, to be held in Tokyo and the first under a bilateral "joint industrial cooperation initiative" launched in Washington recently by MITI head Hikaru Matsunaga and his counterpart Robert Mosbacher, is designed to enable the two governments to become well-informed about industrial development in the other country.

The initiative will be molded into a concrete form of industrial cooperation in the coming years through regular meetings between the two governments in which they work to promote the undertaking of industrial development projects by the private sector, government sources said.

Automakers To Continue Voluntary Export Ceiling

OW1701061490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0439 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO—Japanese automakers will continue their current voluntary restraints on car exports to the United States in fiscal 1990, beginning April 1, International Trade and Industry Minister Hikaru Matsunaga said Wednesday. The automakers currently restrict their exports to the U.S. to 2.3 million cars a year. Matsunaga, indicating government support for the industry's decision, which conforms with ministry guidelines, said the restraints may be scrapped if there is a concrete sign of a slowdown in the volume of exports.

"The decision reflects cautiousness in the Japanese Government to keep a close watch on the trend of Japan's automobile exports to the U.S.," Matsunaga said at a press conference. The government will take into account such factors as demand for automobiles in the Japanese and U.S. markets, future currency fluctuations, and inventories of Japanese automobiles owned by the U.S. before approving the lifting of the voluntary restrictions.

Restrictions on auto exports to the U.S. were voluntarily implemented by Japanese automakers in 1981 in the wake of intensifying U.S. criticism over massive Japanese exports of automobiles. The ceiling on auto exports to the U.S. under Japan's voluntary restraints was set at 1.68 million cars in fiscal 1983 and 1.85 million in fiscal 1984. It has remained at 2.3 million since fiscal 1985. The Japanese decision was conveyed to U.S. Ambassador Michael Armacost earlier Wednesday morning, Matsunaga said.

Industry sources said auto sales in the U.S. are expected to fall to 9.5-9.6 million cars in 1990, compared with the 9.9 million in 1989. The president of Nissan Motor Co., Yutaka Kume, said, "It is a pragmatic decision which reflects sour trade relations between the two countries and the aggravating environment of the U.S. auto market at present."

"It is better to keep the voluntary restraints in place than to consider revising the volume and make the issue more complicated," Kume added.

Shoichiro Toyoda, president of Toyota Motor Corp., said the decision reflects concern about overall trade relations between Japan and the U.S. The sources said Japanese automakers are expanding local production in the U.S. and the decision will make no significant impact on their production plans.

Commercial Banks Agree on Mexican Debt Package

OW1601133890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1309 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Mexico and its commercial bank creditors have reached final agreement on a debt-relief package to reduce Mexico's 48-billion-dollar debt, the second largest in the developing world, financial sources said Tuesday. The accord, to be signed in Mexico on February 6, will mark the first debt-relief program based on the policy championed by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, the sources said.

Under the plan, which covers some 48.5 billion dollars of Mexico's medium- and long-term external debt, 49 percent of the sum will be subject to interest-rate reduction, 41 percent to a 35 percent reduction of principal, and the remaining 10 percent to new loans, they said. Japanese banks plan to redeem about half of the 1.3 trillion yen worth of credit at their settlement of accounts in March, they added.

Japan's Direct Overseas Investment Soars

OW1701130190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1139 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO—The aggregated total of direct foreign investment worldwide at the end of 1988 topped 1 trillion dollars for the first time ever, with Japan's share vaulting to third place, the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) said Wednesday. The annual white paper on direct investment put the global total at 1,031.8 billion dollars, up 8.9 percent from a year earlier, with Japan's overseas investment surging 43.9 percent to 110.8 billion dollars, following the 326.9 billion dollars of the United States and Britain's 183.7 billion dollars.

Japan's direct investment abroad hit a record annual high for the fifth straight year in fiscal 1988 that ended last March 31, coming to 47,022 million dollars, according to the latest Finance Ministry tabulation, the JETRO report said. The nation's direct foreign investment is expected to top 60 billion dollars in fiscal 1989 ending next March 31, the report said, adding that such a surge has caused anxiety and sparked criticism from some countries. It called on Japanese corporations to become "good corporate citizens" in erecting plants overseas.

According to the annual report by the semiofficial Japanese trade promoting agency, while the balance of U.S. direct investment abroad at the end of 1988 rose 6.1 percent to 326.9 billion dollars, the balance of direct foreign investment in the U.S. climbed 21.0 percent to 328.9 billion dollars. Consequently, the United States had more direct investment from abroad than it invested overseas, for the first time since it became the world's biggest debtor nation three years ago, the report said.

The largest investor in the U.S. was Britain, with 101.9 billion dollars, followed by Japan with 53.4 billion dollars, the Netherlands with 49 billion dollars, Canada with 27.3 billion dollars, and West Germany with 23.8 billion dollars, it said. Meanwhile, the number of joint ventures with the Soviet Union and nine East European nations undergoing economic reforms rose 4.1-fold to 2,808 as of the fall of 1989 from a year earlier, of which those with Japan numbered only 31, the report said.

Rolled Steel Production Continues To Rise

OW1701121190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1004 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 17 KYODO—Reflecting booming domestic demand, Japan's rolled steel production for 1989 grew 2.1 percent over the previous year to exceed 100 million metric tons for the second consecutive year, the Japan Iron and Steel Federation said Wednesday. A federation official said Japan put out a record 102.05 million tons of rolled steel last year.

Japan's crude steel output also rose 2.1 percent to 107.91 million tons, the highest level in nine years and the fifth highest on record, the officials said. The federation reported at the same time that rolled steel output in December rose 2.6 percent from November to 8.71 million tons. It was up 3.2 percent from a year ago. Japan's crude steel production in December amounted to 9.25 million tons, up 3.5 percent from November and also up 4.6 percent from a year earlier.

Mongolia

Politburo Curtails Official Privileges

OW2301095790 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] The Politburo of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee has briefed the party Central Committee, the Great People's Hural, and the Council of Ministers on the measures taken by it to promote the implementation of the 7th party plenum decisions, its preparations for the regular 20th party congress, the resolution of economic and social tasks advanced by the party in the ongoing 5-year period, expansion of democracy and openness, and perfection of our society's political system.

The Politburo announced that in keeping to the criticism made during the recent party plenum and the parliamentary session, it has decided to turn the special clinical hospital in Ulaanbaatar into a public hospital catering to patients from the Gobi area, transfer to the Mongolian trade unions the rest home of the party and government in (Nuht), near Ulaanbaatar, and to open it to the public, and further to close down a special shop and limit the number of cars for the official purposes used by ministers and committee chairmen.

Ulaanbaatar Radio Reports on Union's Rally

OW2301082190 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] Despite the temporary direction of the Ulaanbaatar's authorities (?parades be not) undertaken in the Suhbaatar Square and some other busy places like the railroad terminal, the Mongolian Democratic Union [MDU] held Sunday its first, to date, public rally in this central square of the capital. There were no security forces barring the way to the square. The rally makers held the placards with the already traditional for them calls for radical reforms. A new (?appearance) fruitful dialogue is our way, which judging by all testifies to MDU siders approval of the talks which began the other day between the representatives of the party and state leadership and the MDU. [sentence as heard]

One of the union coordinators noted that the union was not for abolishing the party and did not compete for political power. We are against those in the party leadership who represent forces hindering the intensive development of perestroyka in our country, he underscored. The union's chief coordinator Zorig said that the dialogue with the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party did not mean a compromise on the issues vital for the union. He claimed that perestroyka should be carried out not from grass-roots level, but from the top level.

A statement was made by a spokesman of the Democratic Socialist Movement, who told about his brand-new organization. The first to come in the list of this movement's (?priorities)—formulated in leaflets distributed during the rally—is freedom of activity of many parties and denial of a special right to leading role to any one party.

The rally was covered by correspondents of U.S., British, French, and Canadian mass media who arrived from Beijing, China for the purpose.

Media Reports on Rally, Dialogues Decried

OW2301112990 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Foreign mass media has once again misinformed the events connected with the meetings held by the informal Mongolian Democratic Union. This misrepresentation now revealed first of all concerns the principal issue, and is fraught with disinforming the world public. This matter is the report by the Voice of America, the NHK of Japan, Radio Australia, All India Radio, as well as the Soviet TASS agency, which in this and other form claim that the Mongolian Government has allegedly imposed bans on holding meetings and demonstrations in the country.

It must be once again stated that the decision passed by the Ulaanbaatar City authorities and [word indistinct] government in publishing the Ulaanbaatar City newspaper does not ban or prohibit meetings. It concerns only certain places, including the central Suhbaatar Square, where holding of meetings and rallies has been banned, and that just for temporarily.

The hard facts are that the Mongolian Government does not create obstacles to the realization of the constitutional rights of its citizens. But, on the contrary, as it was earlier reported, during the longest cause at democratizing the society, the Mongolian Government is holding extra dialogues with the leaders of the newly founded public movement in a striving to develop cooperation.

Lantuu Officially Replies to MDU Petition

OW2301083290 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] On behalf of the leadership of the Mongolian party and Government, Mr Lantuu, alternate Politburo member and the first secretary of the Ulaanbaatar City party committee, has given the official answer to the petition of the Mongolian Democratic Union [MDU]. This happened during a meeting among Lantuu and Mongolian MDU leaders, which was held in Ulaanbaatar City Municipality. The petition contained 13-point political demands. Mr Lantuu noted that most of the demands correspond to the policy of the party which is being conducted now.

During the meeting, the MDU leaders announced that the union plans to hold its constituent assembly this February and finally to set up their organization. The recording of the meeting was broadcast in full over the national radio and TV.

Union Satisfied

OW2301080790 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] The dialogue which has begun between the Mongolian Democratic Union [MDU] and the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party means that a process of consolidating forces has been set in motion in our society. This was said by MDU spokesman at a press conference in Ulaanbaatar.

Regarding the 2-day direct dialogue between the union leaders and Mr Lantuu, the MDU spokesman said that the union has received official reply to political demands and is satisfied with the positive reaction of the country's leaders to the tall tasks outlined by the union. He announced that a roundtable was planned this week to discuss views and the elaboration and consideration of Mongolia's development concept.

Democratic Union Leader Outlines Objectives

OW2201043890 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Interview by unidentified announcer with Zorig, general coordinator of the Mongolian Democratic Union; Zorig speaks in Mongolian, fading into English translation]

[Text] [Announcer] An informal organization, the Mongolian Democratic Union [MDU], was founded in this country in late 1989, and since then has held a couple of meetings and has been distributing leaflets. The union, which was initially founded with the objective of accelerating the reconstruction process in Mongolia, today attracts the lively interest of the public, and there are different kinds of talks and rumors about its activities. In this connection, today we have invited to our studio Mr Zorig, general coordinator of the MDU, to tell us about his organization. Mr Zorig is 27 years old. He is a lecturer at the Mongolian State University and a postgraduate student, majoring in scientific communism.

Mr Zorig, what prompted the founding of the MDU, and who are its members?

[Zorig] The MDU is an organization founded at the initiative of the public. The key objective of our union is to accelerate and deepen the processes of reconstruction and renewal. People of all ages and social strata can become members of our organization, where young people are playing an important part, since they form a greater bulk of Mongolia's population.

[Announcer] Is there any reason to believe that your organization is a political coalition. What are its objects?

[Zorig] Our organization is a political coalition, as political method underlies its activities. By this, we mean to provide a scientifically substantiated, principled, and unbiased analysis of the present-day realities and, on this basis, work out our program of action, explain it to the people, and choose the correct road of the country's development in coordination and understanding with political and other (?persons).

In our activities, we will give priority to upholding the interests of the people in the first place, protecting human rights, and deepening democracy. We strive to carry out our activities within the framework of the Constitution of the Mongolian People's Republic.

[Announcer] The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP], at its recent plenum and through its practical activities, has made it quite clear that its primary object is to speed up the reconstruction process in all spheres of social life. In this sense, is there a need for another public organization which would duplicate the party's activities and efforts?

[Zorig] To our mind, the command and administrative method, red tape, and Stalinism, which took deep roots in our country in 1930's, continue to hold strong even today. Therefore, it is very important to do away with them. Apart from this, we must do away with the monopoly of power by a single party. For this, we shall work out a law on party, which will guarantee the establishment of a multiparty system.

[Announcer] That was Mr Zorig, general coordinator of an informal organization, the MDU. Here, I would like to add that on December 18, 1989, a group of people desiring to found a public organization for the purpose of supporting the reconstruction process of the MPRP submitted a petition to the Great People's Hural—the parliament. The reply was provided 4 days later, on December 22, which permitted the Democratic Union to carry out its activities within the framework of the Constitution and the existing laws, similarly to all other public organizations of the country. This is graphic proof that our party and government does not ban or hamper the activities of the MDU.

But, a meeting organized by the union on January 14, 1990, had (?voiced) radical demands, where its members announced the union as an independent political force, with the ultimate objective of becoming an opposition party contending with the MPRP. The Union's members also called for a complete change in the social system. These demands and calls by the MDU and its members have made the members of the MPRP and the Mongolian people question the true objective of the organization. This is why Mr Tsahilgaan, chief of a department at the MPRP Central Committee, on January 18 spoke over the Mongolian radio and TV, the gist of which you listened to a few minutes ago in our program today.

Election Law, Small Hural Objects of Debate

OW1701061290 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] A draft law on elections of the People's Hural deputies is being debated in Mongolia. Many people are writing to the national daily UNEN and other Mongolian central newspapers, airing their views regarding the draft. Many of them suggest that the word deputy be changed. In some letters, people suggest that the Small Hural, that is, the parliament, be revived so as to ensure an uninterrupted function of the state legislative body in between the great hurals, which would meet once a year.

An inhabitant of Ulaanbaatar, Erdenochir, in his letter notes that it is necessary to extend the right of electors to nominate their own candidates. According to Erdenochir, the term deputy has become a synonym for decoration-bestowed and high-ranking leaders and ministers. This is evidenced by the fact that one-third of the deputies of the 11th convocation of the Great People's Hural were ministers and heads of departments, writes Erdenochir.

Economic Cooperation With Japan Increasing

OW1701191290 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1711 GMT 17 Jan 90

[By commentator Yaqyunde]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 17 Jan (OANA-MONTSAME)—De-ideologization by the Mongolian Government of its external economic activities and a stronger effort to gear them to the tasks of accelerating the development of society offer to Mongolia greater prospects for expanding economic cooperation with Japan, one of the most developed and, what is very important, geographically close countries of the world.

Judging by the contacts between the two countries' business circles, economic cooperation is to be stepped up in the coming years, alongside the further development of bilateral trade. Japan, accounting for 43 per cent, is Mongolia's major trade partner among capitalist states.

This cooperation will be aimed largely at tackling one of Mongolia's vital problems of building new production projects processing mineral and agricultural raw materials for subsequent domestic manufacture of finished goods. Much attention in this will be given to the application of more advanced and ecologically safe technologies.

Work in this direction practically has started.

Japanese-aided construction of a copper smelting plant on the basis of the ore-dresser "erdenet" has been planned already for the next five-year plan period starting in 1991. This plant is expected to turn out finished copper products in future. Last year Mongolian specialists visited Japanese copper smelting and other kin industries and came to a conclusion that production methods used there are suitable for Mongolia. Mongolian and Japanese experts are currently working on the technical and economic documentation for this construction project.

The building of this industry facilitates not only the increase of Mongolia's export potentialities, but also will create foundations for starting some other industrial productions. For example, specialists believe that the production of gypsum, salphite cellulose, artifical fibres and different pigments with the use of sulphuric acid and elementary sulphur obtained during cooper smelting, could be organized on the basis of the cooper smelting plant.

Mongolia and Japan have achieved an agreement on building a mini-plant of ferrous metallurgy, in the town of Darhan, north of Mongolia. The two sides have decided questions related to the capacity of the future project, the range of its products as well as the time-table and economic conditions of construction. Now the competent bodies in the two countries are working on the draft contract.

Such are the two characteristic examples of the day, testifying to the start of practical Mongol-Japanese cooperation in economic sphere.

North Korea

Foreign Ministry Statement on 'Team Spirit'

SK2201154590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1527 GMT 22 Jan 90

["The United States and the South Korean Authorities Must Immediately Cancel the 'Team Spirit 90' Plan—Statement of DPRK Foreign Ministry"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on January 22 published a statement denouncing the plan of the United States and the South Korean authorities to stage the "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises this year.

The statement reads:

It is a unanimous desire of the entire Korean people and the world peaceloving people to accomplish the cause of Korean reunification in the 1990s.

The proposal to pull down the wall of division between the North and the South and ensure free travel and complete opening made by the respected leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address is an epochal national salvation measure to end the nearly half a century long history of Korean division and confrontation which began in the 1940s and open a new history of reunification.

This new national salvation proposal has evoked widespread repercussions upon the home and foreign public worldwide.

This indicates that the international community earnestly desires the relaxation of the situation on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification.

At this very moment, the United States and the South Korean authorities made public a plan to stage the massive "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises this year, far from showing a positive response to our new save-the-nation proposal.

This has caused a surprise of world public and disappointed the world people who had pinned hopes on the promotion of the North-South dialogues and the reunification of Korea.

Moreover, the decision of the United States and the South Korean authorities to stage the large-scale nuclear attack exercises directed against the opposite side at a time when fruits are in sight at the on-going North-South dialogues is nothing but a deliberate act of military confrontation to put a spoke in the wheel of North-South dialogues and block the relaxation of the situation of the Korean peninsula.

This is a challenge to the desire of the entire Korean people for reunification and the hope of the world peaceloving people for disarmament and detente.

No sooner the United States declared to the world an end to the cold war and the advent of an era of peace than it launched an armed invasion of Panama, a sovereign state. No one can vouch that it would not start a war against the North on the Korean peninsula any moment in the same way behind the smokescreen of the "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres.

If a country stage a large-scale military exercise in the sea off the United States, how would the U.S. authorities react to this?

While stating that it is pursuing a "policy of detente" in Europe, the United States is increasing tensions in Asia, not lowering the level of military confrontation there.

Motivated by this policy, it seeks to keep hold on the Korean peninsula as a source of increasing tensions and a hotbed of war.

The United States and the South Korean authorities are trying to conceal the true color of these war exercises against peace, dialogue and reunification by pretending to have decided to cut the scale of the projected "Team Spirit" joint military exercises. But their scale can hardly be considered to be reduced even in view of the data announced by them.

And they are trying to fool the world public with their clumsy talk about "invitation to observe" the "Team Spirit" manoeuvres. But they can never conceal the aggressive, provocative nature of this war game.

The scheme of the South Korean authorities to stage again the nuclear war exercises threatening fellow countrymen with foreign forces clearly proves that their deed entirely contradicts their statement that they welcome free travel and complete opening.

It is impossible either to build mutual confidence or hold an honest dialogue under the circumstances of such nuclear war exercises as "Team Spirit".

Free travel and a full-scale open door presuppose mutual confidence and detente and they are incompatible with nuclear war exercises.

The United States and the South Korean authorities must not contend that there is no concrete wall cutting across the Korean peninsula at its waist, but must pull it down and cancel at once the plan of the "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises which obstruct free travel and complete opening between the North and the South and the promotion of North-South dialogues. If the United States and the South Korean authorities dare perpetrate the war exercise on the Korean peninsula, they will invite deserving denunciation from the entire Korean people and the world peaceloving people and be held wholly responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

CPRF Demands Cancellation of 'Team Spirit'

SK2301104590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 23 (KCNA)—The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] in a statement today strongly demands an immediate withdrawal of the plan for the criminal "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises announced by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, branding it as an offspring of the U.S. imperialists' invariable aggressive design to realise their Asia-Pacific strategy with South Korea as a nuclear forward base.

The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland on behalf of the entire Korean people bitterly denounces the aggressive and treacherous criminal act of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets who are laying big obstacles in the way of North-South dialogue and blocking the peace of the country and its peaceful reunification, while answering our new peaceful proposal to save the nation with the projected nuclear war exercises, the statement says, and goes on:

The U.S. imperialists intend to stage this year, too, the first year of the 90s, the "Team Spirit" war game with which they dropped the check-bar across the road of North-South dialogue, escalating it after starting it in the '70s. This clearly shows once again that there can be no change in their aggressive nature and policy of "strength" and they are the very one who is standing in the way of peace in our country and its peaceful reunification.

However hard the South Korean puppets may try to whitewash the aggressive nature and character of the "Team Spirit 90" joint war game with gentle words, they can never conceal its anti-dialogue, anti-reunification and anti-national nature, stresses the statement, and goes on:

Lurking behind the plan of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets to stage the massive "Team Spirit" manoeuvres again is the sinister criminal aim to prop up the tottering colonial military fascist rule in South Korea and continue using the Southern half of our country as a nuclear forward base of the United States, and thus keep our country divided into "two Koreas" indefinitely and, for the present, prevent the realisation of our new save-the-nation proposal which has evoked unanimous support and welcome at home and abroad and obstruct the progress of multi-channelled North-South dialogues.

If the United States truly wants security and peace in the world and is interested in the North-South dialogue and the relaxation of tension in Korea, it must cancel at once the plan for the "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises which is contrary to dialogue and incompatible with detente and get out of South Korea unconditionally, taking along its troops and nuclear weapons.

If the South Korean authorities truly value North-South dialogue and have the intention to reunify the country, they should not commit the treacherous crime negative to dialogue, detente and reunification, staging nuclear war exercises against fellow countrymen by bringing foreign aggression forces into the territory, but should give up the "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises and adopt the national stand, the stand of peace and reunification.

They should look squarely at the ardent desire of the fellow countrymen for reunification to pull down the barrier of division and open at any cost a phase of reunification this year that will mark 45th anniversary of the country's liberation and show an affirmative response to our new save-the-nation proposal and respond at an early date to the proposal for a North-South top-level conference in which the heads of the authorities and leaders of political parties will take part.

If the South Korean authorities stage the "Team Spirit 90" exercises, trailing behind the U.S. imperialist aggressors, in spite of our warning, they will have to bear full responsibility for all the consequences arising therefrom.

Our people will maintain high revolutionary vigilance against the large-scale nuclear war exercises of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the South Korean puppets directed against the Northern half of Korea and sharply watch the reckless moves of the provocateurs.

Daily Calls for U.S. Forces to Leave South

SK2301051890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 23 (KCNA)—If it truly wants detente, peace and reunification in Korea, the United States must completely withdraw its forces from South Korea, instead of reducing them, stresses NODONG SINMUN today, commenting on the argument in some U.S. ruling quarters for "U.S. troop reduction" in South Korea.

Quoting foreign press reports that the United States is likely to propose a cutback of 5,000 for the present, a reduction of 10,000 over three years, and support personnel at that, the news analyst says:

This is nothing but a crafty trick of the United States to quell the world public opinion calling for U.S. troop pullout from South Korea and, furthermore, to evade the pullout.

Even if the U.S. forces present in South Korea are cut back to a certain extent there will be no essential change in the situation on the Korean peninsula. If any change is to be brought about in the developments on the Korean peninsula, it is essential rather to fundamentally end the U.S. forces' occupation of South Korea itself than to reduce them partially.

Yet, the United States only talks about partial "troop cuts" and, worse still, says it would get the South Korean puppets' "consent" through "negotiation" with them and carry it into effect on condition that the tension has been eased in Korea.

For the United States to seek "consent" of the puppets who are dead set against the withdrawal or any reduction of U.S. forces in South Korea is, in the final analysis, as good as saying it would not withdraw its forces from South Korea.

At present, foreign troop pullout from disputed areas on the international scene has become a trend. In South Korea alone, however, foreign forces, namely, the U.S. troops, still remain. This runs counter to the trend and demand of the times.

It is high time the United States showed the world people its good will in deed, instead of spinning out an empty talk about peace and detente.

Since we are making sincere efforts for peace on the Korean peninsula and the international situation is being relaxed the United States must not hesitate as regards the question of its troop pullout from South Korea. It must adopt a brave decision to take steps without delay for the total withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea.

Imperialists' False Propaganda Campaign Decried

SK2001045690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 20 Jan 90

["Imperialists Cannot Avoid Their Doom"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 20 (KCNA)—The false propaganda campaign of the imperialists to whitewash the capitalist world is no more than a self-deception of those doomed to ruin in the grip of uneasiness, said MINJU CHOSON Friday.

Noting that the last-ditch efforts of the imperialists are an expression not of their mightiness but of their vulnerability, a signed article headlined "Foolish Act To Turn Back the Wheel of History" lays bare the serious political and economic crisis of capitalist countries.

After the Second World War the United States held sway over the destiny of other countries with dollars and atomic bombs, styling itself the ruler and "emperor" of the capitalist world. Today, however, it is caught in the grip of serious political and economic crisis.

The United States suffering a serious economic crisis with a heavy burden of ever-growing financial and trade deficit and foreign debts is putting out an aid-begging hand to its allies and satellites.

The U.S. policy of order does not work any longer even in the Western world.

Britain, lagging far behind the power states of the world, has become a trifling country which has no influence and is in a poor position in the context of political and economic crisis and social confusion which are daily getting serious. The position of other Western capitialist countries is little different from that of the United States and Britain.

The imperialists are continuously taking the path of self-destruction by clinging to their neocolonial exploitation and plunder, still refusing to accept the developing nations' demand for a new international economic order.

Antagonism and contradictions between the imperialist powers are exacerbating still further as their marketing is becoming narrow and the way of increasing capital and of amassing fortunes is being blocked.

In capitalist society the people become mentally and physically deformed and the reactionary ideas and the decadent bourgeois way of life are spreading and such social evils as murder and robbery are rampant.

With a view to maintaining their privileged position, the imperialist reactionaries are making their ruling machines fascist, seeking war and getting more and more reactionary.

For all this, the contradictions between the popular masses desirous of Chajusong and the capitalist class are deepening and signs of ruin are growing in capitalist countries.

The imperialists are making frantic efforts to free themselves from decline and ruin, but in vain.

They should soberly think over the record of their crimes that stained the history of mankind with disgrace and crime and ponder over their self-destruction before running wild without discretion.

No Progress Made in Working-Level Sports Talks

SK2301093390 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] The 6th contact of the working-level delegates of the North-South sports talks was held in camera yesterday in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom. We learned how yesterday's contact proceeded when it was over as follows:

Our side demanded that the South side completely withdraw some new issues irrelevant to the sports talks—issues raised in the 7th full-dress talks—such as the draft letter of agreement on sending letters to international organizations on the assumption that the single team would not be formed; that it withdraw the supplementary rules; and that the supplementary rules be discussed in the joint committee as had been agreed. After saying so, our side requested of the South side that the basic 10-point proposal on the formation of the single team, the letter of agreement on the formation of the joint committee, and the detailed rules on the operation of the joint committee be drafted in yesterday's contact—an assignment to the working-level delegates by the full-dress talks—and that the issue of guaranteeing the implementation of the letters of agreement be discussed there.

Yesterday, however, the South side reiterated its unreasonable demand that the complex supplementary rules, which it put forth, be discussed first. In connection with this, our side said: It has been clearly proven in seven rounds of talks and five rounds of working-level delegates meetings so far that the supplementary rules, which the South side put forth, are unreasonable, and that because of the nature of this issue, cannot be discussed in the full-dress talks. Nevertheless, by insisting that this issue be discussed first, the South side is creating a grave obstacle to forming the single team. This shows that it is certain that the South side is not interested in forming a single team and has no will to form one. This also leads us to believe that it may quit the sports talks later.

After saying so, we asked the South side whether it would draft the letter of agreement if the supplementary rules were not discussed, adding: The South side said that it would not draft the letters of agreement. This means that it would not sign the basic 10-point proposal, and this in turn means that it would not form a single team. Dumbfounded at our side's logical statement, the South side even enumerated the sophistry that the supplementary rules are the so-called means to guarantee the implementation of the agreement and that the fact that the South has withdrawn 3 items of the supplementary rules shows that it is magnanimous.

In connection with this, our side said that the supplementary rules, which the South side put forth, are not a means to guarantee implementation at all but rather a means to impede implementation. Our side also recalled the fact that on 24 December last year, at the 5th round of talks, the South side proposed that an agreement on the single team be reached in principle before the end of last year and that the drafting of the agreement be completed by the end of January, this year. Our side said that only 10 points had been discussed up until that time and that a complete agreement was reached on this at the 6th talks. Our side also disclosed that since an agreement had been reached on the content of the proposal, while talking about the interpretation of terms or about a means to guarantee implementation, the South side had continuously offered empty words, not clarifying what it meant by the interpretation of terms and a means to guarantee implementation, and that at the final stage when the 10-point, on which an agreement had been reached, should be signed, it put forth a new complicated 37-point proposal.

After pointing out that it took almost 10 months for the two sides to discuss the 10 points, our side disclosed that, after putting forth a new proposal composed of scores of items, the South side insisted that this must be first discussed and that it is clear that this means that the South side would not sign the 10-point proposal and thus form a single team. Our side pointed out that the South side's deliberate act will be duly denounced by all the fellow countrymen and the public opinion of the world. After saying that there is nothing one can hide in the world, our side again strongly asked the South side to withdraw all of the supplementary rules.

Consequently, the basic 10-point proposal on the formation of the single team and other proposals could not be signed yesterday because of the South side's unjust attitude and stand.

In concluding yesterday's contact, our side said: When we sum up the entire procedure of the talks, we think that the South side put forth the supplementary rules in order to avoid signing the 10-point proposal and forming a single team by complicating the talks. The South side must bear in mind that if no single team is formed, it will be held fully responsible for this, denounced by the entire nation generation after generation, and judged by history.

After saying so, our side said that whether or not the South side will agree to draft the letter of agreement and sign it will be a touchstone with which one can judge whether or not it has a will to form a single team, adding: We will watch the South side's attitude.

MINJU CHOSON Comments on No's Speech

SK2001044690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 20 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON yesterday said that although No Tae-u talked much about the questions arising in North-South relations at the "New Year press conference," his utterances are, in a nutshell, a sophism to appease and deceive the people and cover up his treacheries.

He told about "travel of dispersed families," "formation of a single sports team," "signing of an agreement on traffic and communications," "joint development of tourist resources" including Mt. Kumgang and so on.

This is a false propaganda to deceive the public into believing that he is interested in the humanitarian question and cultural and economic exchange between the North and the South, the paper pointed out in a signed commentary, and went on:

His utterances about question arising in improving North-South relations are shameless.

Contacts and talks for "travel of dispersed families" and "formation of a single sports team" have been held many a time so far, but none of them saw fruition owing to the unreasonable stand and stance of the South side and their prospect is not bright.

"Signing of an agreement on traffic and communications" brought forward by the puppet is intended to ensure the traffic of limited persons by "unified channel of dialogue" and control the free travel of people of various strata and "exchange of commodities" means trade, regarding the North as another country, as another nation.

"Joint development of tourist resources" of Mt. Kumgang was already agreed upon at the civilian level between the North and South, but this question has not yet been resolved because the South Korean authorities laid artificial obstacles and difficulties in its settlement.

If No Tae-u is really interested in the improvement of North-South relations and peaceful reunification, he should not be talkative but prove it in deed.

Commentary Views South's Workers Struggle

SK2001051290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0459 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 20 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today notes that the South Korean workers' struggle to form the "National Council of Trade Unions" (Chonnohoyop) is a manifestation of their unanimous desire to wage the struggle for their vital rights and democracy by their united efforts in a more organized manner, and on no account can it be an object of repression.

Recalling that the South Korean puppet clique decided to "strongly deal with" the formation of Chonnohoyop and threatened that they would adopt a "concrete countermeasure" on January 20 and, earlier, rummaged the house of the chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Formation of Chonnohoyop without a seizure and search warrant, the news analyst says:

This shows how desperately the No Tae-u group is trying to suppress and destroy the movement of South Korean workers for forming a democratic, independent trade union organization covering the whole of South Korea when it has reached the final stage.

The South Korean workers are subjected to appalling work conditions, long hours of slave labour, low wages and political non-rights without parallel in the world. It is their inviolable, legitimate right to form an organization for their democratic liberties and rights and hold assemblies and demonstrations.

At present, the No Tae-u group threatens to "chase to the end and arrest" demonstrators by increasing the number of riot police companies from 357 to 431 in order to elevate the manoeuverability and repressive capacity to counter "illegal assemblies and demonstrations5. However, it will be unable to arrest the just struggle of South Korean workers, the news analyst says, demanding the puppets to look straight at the developments and stop suppressing the labour movement.

International Organization Criticizes Yim Trial

SK2101084390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0808 GMT 21 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 21 (KCNA)—The International Committee of Jurists for Democracy and Human Rights in South Korea in a statement January 5 condemned the South Korean puppet clique's trial of coed Yim Su-kyong and appealed to the progressive forces to stage a dynamic solidarity activity for the rescue of all the South Korean political prisoners including Rev. Mun Ik-hwan. The trial of woman student Yim Su-kyong in South Korea was held in a terror-ridden atmosphere in which even elementary right to defence was denied under a stringent security measure, the statement says, and continues:

In October last year an international group of lawyers applied to the South Korean puppet Embassy in Paris for "visa" in order to attend the trial of coed Yim, but the South Korean authorities have not yet answered.

The unreasonable act of the South Korean authorities is an insult to the international association of democratic lawyers, a non-governmental organisation which is an advisory body of the United Nations, and to the right to defence.

This betrays the splittist nature of the South Korean authorities who are intensifying the suppression of students, religionists and workers and laying stumbling-blocks in the way of the realisation of the reasonable proposals for the reunification of Korea, while creating the impression that "democracy" has been realised in South Korea.

WPK Sends Greetings to Yugoslav Communists

SK2101093590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0846 GMT 21 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 21 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] on January 20 sent a message of greetings to the 14th Extraordinary Congress of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY].

The message expressed the belief that the Congress will make a contribution to the socialist development of the country and the strengthening of friendship and unity among nationalities of Yugoslavia and that the friendly relations forged between the WPK and the LCY would continue developing favourably in the future, too.

Central Symposium Attended by WPK Members

SK1801232690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 18 (KCNA)—A central symposium on "On Further Improving and Strengthening Labour Administration," a classical work of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, was held Thursday at the People's Palace of Culture.

Participating in the symposium were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president; Pak Nam-ki, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; and other senior officials.

The speakers stressed that the work is an immortal encyclopedia which has further developed and enriched with new principles and propositions the chuche-based theory of labour administration founded by the great leader president Kim Il-song and given perfect answers to all the questions arising in labour administration.

They said the work made an immortal contribution to the development of the revolutionary theory of the working class by perfecting the chuche-based theory of socialist labour administration in an integral system.

They noted that the work, proceeding from the philosophical principle of the chuche idea, expounded that labour is a process of creative and conscious activities of man to conquer and control nature and become the master of it and the independent ideological consciousness of man plays the decisive role in it and, on this basis, propoundly expounded that labour administration is a work with people, a political work, to set in motion the ideology of people taking part in social labour and cultivate and organise and mobilize their creative strength.

With the definition of the main principle of labour administration, the ideological and theoretical basis and fundamental bedstone were firmly laid to evolve and systematize all the principles and content of labour administration focusing on man and an epochal turn was brought in its theory and development, the speakers said.

They stressed that work specified flawlessly the composition of the theory of labour administration and its content on the basis of the methodology of chuche.

NODONG SINMUN on Kim Il-song Proposal

SK2101090990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0823 GMT 21 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 21 (KCNA)—The proposal of removing the barrier between the North and the South, ensuring free travel and complete opening, a proposal made by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year address, is a banner of national salvation and a beacon indicating the way of overcoming obstacles and difficulties that have cropped up in the way of reunification and of reunifying the country independently and peacefully by pooling the efforts of the whole nation.

NODONG SINMUN today in a signed article entitled "Epochal Save-The-Nation Proposal To Pull Down the Barrier of Division and Open the Road to Reunification" says:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has said:

"Representing the desire of the entire nation for reunification and its urgent requirement, we hold that the North and the South should remove the barrier between them, ensure free travel and open all their doors."

In his New Year address he said that, in order to remove the barrier between the North and the South, it is necessary, first of all, to pull down the concrete wall built in the area south of the Military Demarcation Line.

If they truly want peace and reunification of the country, the South Korean rulers must show it in deed by pulling down the concrete wall of division they built, instead of talking volubly about "reunification."

Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year address also said that free travel must be realized between North and South after removing the concrete wall.

We will always keep the door open for free travel and contact between North and South and provide all conditions needed for them. At the same time, we hold that the South Korean authorities should destroy the wall of division and ensure free activities of people of all social standings and personages who want free travel and contact as well as necessary conditions.

In his New Year address Comrade Kim Il-song said the North and the South should not confine their efforts to guaranteeing a free travel, but proceed to opening their doors fully in all spheres including politics, the economy and culture.

Although they are loud-mouthed about "opening" and "reunification," the South Korean authorities, in actuality, oppose our proposal to pull down the concrete wall and open all the doors, arguing for "stages" and "order." To cry for "opening" while leaving as it is the concrete wall, a symbol of division and confrontation, is a hypocrisy and no one will believe it.

In his New Year Address Comrade Kim Il-song stressed the need to remove the barrier of national division and materialize free travel between the North and the South and a full-scale open door and, as the most appropriate, realistic way of negotiation to this end, advanced the signal negotiation proposal of convening a North-South top-level conference in which the heads of the authorities and the leaders of political parties will take part.

If they really have the intention to reunify the country, the South Korean authorities must renounce the anti-communist confrontation policy and separatist policy of seclusion and accept without delay our save-the-nation proposal and the proposal to convene a North-South top-level conference involving the heads of the authorities and the leaders of political parties so as to remove the barrier of division and materialize free travel and complete opening, the article stresses.

Editorial Stresses Party's Vanguard Role

SK2301080090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2114 GMT 16 Jan 90

[NODONG SINMUN 17 January editorial: "Let the Party Members Play a Vanguard Role in Implementing Decisions of the Plenary Session"]

[Text] The 17th plenary session of the 6th party Central Committee called on all fields and units to effect a great revolutionary upswing once again in socialist construction by vigorously launching a struggle to produce more and save more. The plenary session put forward struggle targets and tasks which can open a more brilliant prospect the future of socialist economic construction.

The essence lies in the fact that all fields and units, upholding the decisions of this plenary session, must thoroughly implement the decisions. To this end, it is important for all party members to stand in the vanguard to vigorously launch a struggle to carry out the decisions of the plenary session. Carrying out the party's decisions in the vanguard is a noble obligation to our party members, the vanguard fighters of the revolution.

Only when all party members, upholding the decisions of the plenary session, boldly turn out to struggle to implement them can the working people throughout the country also strongly join in the struggle. Our party put forward the enormous struggle tasks once again on the basis of hundreds of thousands of party members' unlimited fidelity toward the party and the revolution. The party's trust in, and expectation of, our party members are great. The party's militant call to effect a great upswing from the first year of the 1990's by vigorously launching the struggle to produce more and save more demands that all our party members newly rise up with higher revolutionary spirit and consciousness as party members and create innovation and new exploits.

In order to play vanguard roles in implementing the decisions of the plenary session, our party members should first of all have high ideological determination and commitment to thoroughly carrying out the decisions of the plenary session without exception.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The party members should implement the party's policy without exception, obey the discipline of the party organization, and spare no effort to struggle to strengthen the solidarity of the party. This is an elementary obligation of the party members.

Carrying out the decisions of this plenary session at the highest stage with absoluteness and unconditionality is an important task assigned to all functionaries and party members at present. The plenary session's decision to optimally launch a struggle to produce more and save more is not a simple economic working task. It is a struggle to more brilliantly construct socialism as required by chuche by energetically giving play to our own strength and economic might. Herein lies the party's noble intention to more epochally improve our people's life and to more energetically demonstrate the dignity and honor of our country's socialist system.

Putting into practice the decisions of this plenary session is precisely a struggle to more splendidly blaze a bright future for our socialist system. Therefore, all party members should uphold the decisions of this plenary session with higher political consciousness and increased sense of responsibility than ever before. In addition, they should carry them out to the end no matter what may happen.

All party members, being deeply conscious that only when they thoroughly implement the decisions of the plenary session in their fields and units can their high honor and dignity exist, should devote all their strength, wisdom, and energy to implement these decisions. Our party members have already upheld the decisions of the plenary session and are energetically turning out for the struggle to implement them with a great enthusiasm and joy. The party members, with the consciousness to give full play to their party spirit in carrying out the decisions of the plenary session, should accelerate the struggle to implement them, not slacken upsurged spirits.

The examples of the anti-Japanese guerrillas, who thoroughly implemented without condition the orders and directions of the respected and beloved comrade commander, are a good example of the discipline that should be actively followed by all our party members who uphold the decisions of the plenary session. All party members should positively follow the examples of the fallen patriots of the anti-Japanese revolution, uphold the decisions and directions of the party with total devotion, and throw their hearts and souls into implementing them.

In order to fully play vanguard roles in a struggle to implement the decisions of the plenary sessions, our party members should also inherit the fighting spirit as the party members did in the great chollima upswing period. The members of the Workers' Party, including the postwar 10 party members of Nakwon kept in their heart the call of the party and the leader, and they made everything, if demanded by the party, even with their bare hands, and effected a great upswing of chollima.

All party members should always deeply remember how those party members struggled and how they led the masses in the vanguard even in the difficult postwar conditions, should actively follow their fighting spirit and working styles, and resolutely defend and uphold the party with the most energetic struggle to produce more and save more as the postwar party members did.

The revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude is a fighting spirit which our party highly displayed along the entire road of the battle for speed and chollima. All party members, with full confidence and optimism in a victory under any unfavorable circumstances, should settle all arising problems with their own strength as done by the postwar party members who worked a miracle while manufacturing things that had previously not existed and seeking out more of what was in short supply. In addition, all party members should positively seek out inner reserves for technological innovation, ways to organize for more production, and reasonable plans for labor organization everywhere throughout the country. By so doing, they should produce more and save more. The vanguard roles our party members play in the struggle to implement the decisions of the plenary sessions should be displayed by overfulfilling their daily assignments in their revolutionary posts with the attitude of being masters of what they do.

The plenary session put forward the task of producing great results from the already established enormous economic foundation by normalizing production at the highest level in all units, including the electricity, coal, and metal industries. These tasks can be realized only when all party members in all fields of the national economy discharge their revolutionary duty in their posts and when they carry out daily militant assignments without fail. All party members should deeply keep this in their mind, discharge their post duties in a responsible manner with an attitude of being masters of what they do, and give full play to the traits of unconditionally carrying out on time all daily militant tasks.

The party members in key construction fields should resolutely carry out assigned construction projects without fail; the party members in the fields of the heavy, light, and transportation industries should overfulfill their assigned production and transportation tasks; and the party members in the fields of rural economy should qualitatively implement the tasks according to farming seasons at the proper time. By so doing, they should discharge their obligations as party members.

Only when our party members thoroughly and frugally deal with the national economy can the tasks to produce more and save more put forward by the plenary session be realized. In addition, only when they prepare all work with the attitude of being masters in a sincere and substantial manner, as opposed to just issuing a routine call to produce and save more, can success be guaranteed. Thus, our party members should stand in the vanguard not only in putting their shoulders to difficult tasks but also in thoroughly and frugally working with the attitude of being masters.

It is important for the party members to deal with the national economy with the attitude of being masters and to thoroughly calculate everything in a meticulous way and frugally economize. When party members produce goods or build a house, they should make every effort to make better products and build with less fuel, electricity, raw materials, equipment, and capital. To this end, the party members should regard the criteria for the use of material as a law and strictly observe it; they should endeavor to save even a drop of oil, a volt of electricity, or a shovel of coal by correctly setting guidelines and monitoring the use of such resources; and lower to the maximum material consumption per unit of product.

The plenary session revealed that important inner reserves for a great upswing in the 1990's lie in the development of science and technology and in the technological innovation and called for the move toward technological innovation to be powerfully promoted.

Every party member should suggest bold initiatives in his post for normalizing production and producing more and saving more, and positively turn out to putting them into practice.

Party organizations should correctly lead the party members in order to have them stand in the vanguard of the struggle to implement the decisions of the plenary session. Party organizations at every level should deeply involve themselves with party members, briskly act among them, and substantially push ahead with political work to arouse party members to a struggle to implement the decisions of the plenary session. In particular, party organizations should give each party member assignments, specific tasks, deadlines, and guidelines on how to do the assignments. In addition, party organizations should sum up the status of their execution at a proper time. Along with this, the party organizations should ensure that all party members arouse and encourage the masses in such a way as one will motivates ten and ten motivate a hundred.

All party members, by deeply cherishing high dignity and confidence and energetically fighting on as the party members of the most glorious Workers' Party of Korea which the great leader founded and which the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is elucidating, should effect a new great upswing in socialist construction.

Creation of 'Speed of the Nineties' Urged

SK1901053590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 19 (KCNA)—It is the duty assigned by the era and history to us to make a great advance in socialist construction by creating the "speed of the 90s", says NODONG SINMUN today. The paper calls upon the entire party members and other working people to vigorously step up the general onward movement to create a new speed, closely united around the party and the leader and full of confidence and optimism.

The editorial entitled "Let The Entire People Wage Heroic Struggle and Create a New 'Speed of the 90s'" says:

The struggle to create the "speed of the 90s" is a new general onward march of our people to powerfully promote the revolutionary cause of chuche by effecting a great upsurge in all fields of socialist construction.

The great leader comrade Kim Il-song said:

"The building workers and soldiers of the people's Army involved in the major projects must know clearly that they are working on the main fronts with the key to socialist construction, and must create a new speed of construction, the 'speed of the 90s', by displaying creativity and mass heroism."

The struggle to create the "speed of the 90s" is, by nature, a mass onward movement to leap to a new, higher stage in our socialist construction in the 90s by giving the maximum scope to the creativity of our people united with a single heart around the party and the leader.

The important demand of this struggle is to make the economic foundations pay off in an all-round way by giving full play to the vast productive potential available and to further develop the country's economy on the solid basis of modern sciences and technology and thus build our socialism better and faster as required by Chuche.

The "speed of the 90s" will become a driving force giving new impetus to our onward movement at the speed of Chollima spurred on by the speed campaign.

It is a unanimous aspiration and unshakable will of our people to actively face the stirring current of history and push ahead with socialist construction more forcefully with the might of Chuche. The drive to create the "speed of the 90s" represents the ardent loyalty of our people to demonstrate the revolutionary mettle of Chuche Korea in socialist construction, following the party and the leader, and it pulsates with indomitable spirit of the revolutionary ranks which have been steeled and grown and strengthened in the course of the march of Chollima, the march of the speed campaign.

The source of the great might and unbreakable vitality of the drive to create the "speed of the 90s" lies in that it embodies the party's determination and the unanimous desire of the entire people.

We have the great guiding idea, theory and method. As there are the Chuche idea and powerful subject of revolution united as one around the leader, the independent national economy with inexhaustible potential and solid foundations and superior and viable socialist system, we can carry out whatever difficult and vast task.

The whole party, the whole country and the entire people should effect a constant upswing in production in all domains of the national economy including the key industries, light industry, transportation and agriculture by waging a vigorous struggle for a great revolutionary upsurge through a general mobilization under the slogan "all for the creation of a new 'speed of the 90s' !"

The key to the creation of the "speed of the 90s" lies in full mobilization of the elevated enthusiasm of the entire people and their creativity.

All the party members and other working people should advance, struggle and advance with deep confidence and optimism by fully displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle.

In order to create the new "speed of the 90s", it is essential to manage and operate the economy more scientifically and rationally, conduct the drive for increased production and economy more vigorously and enhance the role of party organisations, stresses the editorial.

Workers Turn Out in 'Socialist Emulation'

SK1901221690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 19 (KCNA)—Working people in different parts of the country have turned out in the socialist emulation to create the "speed of the 90's" in response to the call of the employees of the chollima Steel Complex on January 10.

The Ministry of Yongsong Machine Industries, a leading producer of ordered equipment of the country, vowed to double the production of ordered equipment, machine tools and compressors this year as against last year by introducing a flexible processing system and improving the technical efficiency of machines.

The Pukchang Thermal Power Complex is planning to raise power production 24.7 percent above last year and the Pujongang Power Station by 16,000,000 kwh.

The Sinchang Coal Mine of the Sunchon District Coal Mining Complex has decided to carry out one month ahead of schedule its coal production plan for the year 13.5 percent higher than last year's by creating many cutting faces with precedence given to tunnelling and increasing the number of the companies which produce 10,000 tons a month.

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, the October 5 General Automation Works, the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps, the Pyongyang Electric Bulb Factory and many other industrial establishments of the country held rallies and rose up as one in the mass campaign to effect a new upsurge in socialist construction under the slogan of increased production and economy.

Meetings Held To Effect Production 'Upswing'

SK2001102690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 20 (KCNA)—Mass meetings are being held in different parts of Korea to effect a new upswing in socialist construction in hearty response to the New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the decisions of the 17th plenary meeting of the 6th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The participants in the South Pyongan provincial mass meeting held in Pyongsong vowed to complete the construction of the Sunchon Vinalon Complex and the Nyongwon Power Station and the Onchon-Namdong railway project ahead of schedule and increase this year the production of electricity 1.3 times and coal more than 1.4 times as against last year in the province.

They also resolved to push ahead with a drive to expand the production of trucks, cement, chemical fertilizers and light industrial goods and yield more than 8, 9, 10 tons of grain per hectare in the domain of the rural economy.

The South Hamgyong Provincial mass meeting held in Hamhung expressed determination to overfulfil the yearly plan for the production of coal, electricity, rolled steel, cement, chemical fertilizers, nonferrous metal ore, textile and grain, more than 15 percent up on an average over last year in the province.

At similar meetings held in North and South Hwanghae, North Hamgyong Provinces and Kaesong Municipality the attendants hardened their determination to add lustre to the first year of the 90s by successfully carrying out their vast tasks this year.

Youth To Work as Vanguard, Shock Brigade

SK2001121790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1230 GMT 14 Jan 90

["Resolution" adopted at meeting of Youth and Students of Pyongyang held at Kim Il-song Plaza on 14 January—read by unidentified person]

[Text] At a time when all the people have launched a grand historic march by upholding the great leader's New Year address and decisions of the 17th plenary meeting of the 6th party Central Committee, the hearts of all of our youth are filled with greater confidence and firm determination.

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is firmly convinced that we, the youth, will excellently accomplish the missions and duties assigned by the time and revolution in the last decade of the 20th century—the historic era during which a decisive turning point will be effected in the struggle to build a socialist paradise and reunify the country.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: This year, the fourth year of the third 7-Year Plan, we should register another revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction by vigorously waging the general advance movement for maximum production increase and conservation by cherishing the revolutionary spirit for self-reliance and arduous struggle.

We, the youth of the new generation who have fostered the burning loyalty and vigorous courage in the bosom of the party, firmly resolve, to more boldly demonstrate the honor of vanguard and shock brigade in the rewarding struggle of the nineties by highly upholding the slogan, "Let us become the reliable chuche-oriented youth vanguard of the Worker's Party of Korea [WPK]!"

First, we will vigorously accelerate the rewarding advance movement of the nineties by cherishing the loyalty to the party and to the leader as our revolutionary faith and principle. We will become a satellite which defends the bright star of Paektu. We will become genuine young fighters who dedicate all of our youth and lives to the struggle to accomplish the teachings of the respected leader in his New Year address this year and in the 17th plenary meeting of the 6th party Central Committee, accepting them as our faith, just as the young communists of the 1920's and anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters who defended and accomplished the great leader's order and directive at the risk of their lives.

Second, we will all become heroes of construction and creation in the nineties by effecting a great revolutionary upsurge once again and upholding the slogan, "Let us become young heroes in the rewarding struggle to glorify the era of the Worker's Party!"

We will become the banner-bearers for creating the new revolutionary speed of the nineties in the struggle to accelerate the (?basic) construction of the state including houses, to increase production of electric power, coal, steel and iron and to develop light industry.

We will become shock brigade and vanguard members who will accomplish the national economic plan by opening a breakthrough in the march and vigorously waging the movement to win the grand prize of youth in accomplishing the third 7-Year Plan, the youth vanguard movement for light industry revolution and the young shock brigade movement.

We are the youth who are the masters of the next generation. We will become the vanguard who will glorify the nineties by accelerating modernization, scientification and chuche-orientation of the national economy and developing science and technology.

We will effect a new great upsurge in socialist construction by highly demonstrating the revolutionary spirit for self-reliance and arduous struggle, upholding the party's militant teachings, and cherishing such spirit and vigor as displayed during the time of the great Chollima upsurge. We will also energetically carry out the movement for production increase and conservation.

Upholding the slogan on study-first principle, we will become doctors, junior doctors and inventors of new technology in our 20's and 30's by registering a new turning point in study.

Third, we will vigorously fight to achieve national reunification, actively support and encourage the struggle of the South Korean youth and students.

Fourth, we will carry out the work with a vigorous fighting spirit, passion and pride as the youth who carry out the revolutionary tasks of the new golden age attained under the leadership of the party. We will vigorously organize and mobilize the youth in the new march like the commanders of the anti-Japanese guerrillas.

The fanfare of the glorious march of the nineties has been blown. Our cause is just and our faith is firm.

We will vigorously march forward in firm unity with the great leader and dear comrade leader along the road indicated by the banner of chuche idea, the banner of socialism.

We firmly resolve once again to brilliantly accomplish the honorable missions of the revolutionary shock brigade and a reliable youth vanguard of the WPK in the struggle to glorify the nineties as the era of victory.

[Signed] In the name of all participants in the gathering of loyalty by youths and students in Pyongyang to become the vanguard and shock brigade in the struggle for the accomplishment of the militant tasks indicated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year address and of decisions of the 17th plenary meeting of the 6th party Central Committee.

[Dated] 14 January 1990

Brigades Introduce Innovations

SK1901221890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 19 (KCNA)—The "April 15 Technical Innovation Shock Brigades" at factories and enterprises all over the country put into effect 667,000 technical innovation proposals in the past decade. 6,000 of them got the state patent rights.

In this period the shock brigade members, through the technical innovations in different sectors of the national economy, have rendered benefits to the state in the form of 231,270,000 man-days' labour, 3,368 million kwh of electricity, 40 million tons of coal and 1,793,000 tons of rolled steel.

The "April 15 Technical Innovation Shock Brigades" were formed with high skilled workers and technicians at factories and enterprises on January 19, 1980.

In the past decade the ranks of the shock brigades have been strengthened, the number of the technicians and specialists growing 27 times and inventors 9.8 times as against the time of their formation.

Youth Activities Reported

SK2101003990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 20 (KCNA)—Activities of youth shock brigades are assuming broad dimensions in Korea.

Young shock brigaders make breakthroughs on difficult, labour-consuming fronts of socialist construction and construct monumental structures in different places of the country.

Now they are performing labour feats in the construction of major objects throughout the country including the east Pyongyang thermal power station, the 105-storeyed Yugyong Hotel and new streets in the capital city of Pyongyang.

The speed campaign youth shock brigade, the capital city construction youth shock brigade and others have undertaken industrial construction, city construction and the construction of monumental edifices, and the automation youth shock brigade, the technical innovation youth shock brigade and others are devoting their creative ingenuity to the nation's scientific and technological development.

The speed campaign youth shock brigade, the biggest shock brigade in scale, is a powerful construction unit equipped with uptodate technical means. In the past 15 years it has successfully completed nearly 300 big and small projects.

They displayed their honour as heroic builders while taking part in the construction of major structures and monumental edifices such as the 10 million ton-capacity dressing plant no. 3 of the Komdok Mining Complex, the steel works no. 8, scores of railway electrification projects and new railway construction including the northern railway project, the Changgwang, Munsu and other housing estates in the capital city, the international friendship exhibition, the grand people's study house and the Mangyongdae School Children's Palace.

Many labour heroes and tens of thousands of recipients of state decorations have been produced from among the youth shock brigaders, in this course.

Youth shock brigades of Korea are known as advance detachments as they have created an unusually high speed while ensuring high quality in construction.

They have wrought new miracles everywhere they went. They completed the construction of 80 odd kilometre long Haeju- Hasong railway section in 75 days, the construction of the Pidan islet with some 6,000 hectares in 100 days and the construction of 80 odd kilometre Sepo-Ichon railway section linking the eastern and western parts of the country which cut across steep cliffs and valleys in a matter of one year.

The feats they have performed for the prosperity of the country are shining with the names of the Kanggye Youth Power Station, the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, the Kumya Youth Coal Mine, Youth Street, Youth Railway Station. etc.

Chonminnyon Protests 'Unjust' U.S. Labor Act

SK1901231390 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] A spokesman of the National Democratic Alliance of Korea and executive members of the preparatory committee for its Standing Committee visited the U.S. Embassy on the morning of 12 January and conveyed a letter of protest against the unjust labor activities of U.S. enterprises. They demanded that the U.S. Administration respond sincerely.

In the letter of protest, they stated that as our workers who suffered low wages and long hours of labor began to demand the money they deserved for their labor, the U.S. entrepreneurs resorted to camouflaged closing of business and to the trick of unjust withdrawal. They stressed that this is an imperialist act of repressing workers.

SKNDF Denounces No Tae-u News Briefing

SK2001040390 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] A spokesman of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] issued a statement denouncing No Tae-u's New Year news conference on 10 January.

The statement noted that in his news conference, No Tae-u merely repeated the assertions made in his 7 June declaration and the 8 December UN address, which were labeled as a splittist line at home and abroad, while pouring cold water over the people's aspirations for reunification, thus showing his antinational splittist nature once again.

The statement pointed out that in the New Year news conference, No Tae-u insisted on only limited visits by separated families, not free travel by the masses from all walks of life in the North and the South; on partial exchange between economic and sports domains, not full-scale openness of all domains of politics, economy and culture; and only on reduction of scale of the large-scale military exercise, not complete suspension of the exercise.

The statement stressed that his news conference merely repeated the splittist theory on phased reunification and is a deceitful trick to appease the enhanced people's aspirations for reunification.

The statement said that No Tae-u undisguisedly revealed his anti-democratic position—to suppress democracy on the pretext of consolidating democracy—and used all sorts of lengthy flowery words about economic democratization.

The statement pointed out that No Tae-u's current news conference clearly showed that no one can have any hope for and expectations of the present military regime and that unless one overthrows it through struggle, neither national reunification nor democratization which the people ardently aspire to can be achieved.

The statement emphasized that the SKNDF will overthrow the No Tae-u military regime through fiercer anti-U.S. and antidictatorship struggle together with the patriotic masses from all walks of life, and will provide a new turning point in achieving independence, democracy and reunification on this land without fail.

South Korea

Joint Communique Issued on Opposition Merger

SK2201111190 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1003 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Joint communique read by No Tae-u, president of the Democratic Justice Party, after talks with Kim Yong-sam, president of the Reunification Democratic Party, and Kim Chong-pil, president of the New Democratic Republican Party, in Chongwadae on 22 January—live]

[Text] No Tae-u, president of the Democratic Justice Party [DJP], who takes responsibility for the state affairs of this Republic, which was launched according to the people's choice, Kim Yong-sam, president of the Reunification Democratic Party [RDP], who has long devoted himself to democracy in this land, and Kim Chong-pil, president of the New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP], who has determinedly realized his faith in the stability of the state and the people, stand together today before the people to open a new chapter of history in which democracy, prosperity, and reunification will be achieved.

Having greeted the year 1990 with the 21st century near at hand, we stand at a grave watershed where the future of the country should be decided on.

The present circumstances facing the nation can be likened to being at the crossroads, deciding on whether we will advance toward a prosperous advanced democratic country on the basis of this democracy, which has been achieved through twists and turns in the constitutional history of the past 40 years, and on the foundation of our economy, which all people have attained through their blood and sweat over the past 30 years, or whether we will be plunged into an uneasy road backwards.

Over the past half century we have resourcefully overcome, with the people's united strength, harsher ordeals and more painful difficulties than those undergone by any other nation in the world.

Having suffered even from national division and a fratricidal war, our people have accomplished economic development, which the world marvels at, have put an end to the prolonged era of authoritarianism, and have opened the era of democracy, thereby hosting the Seoul Olympics as the best Olympics in history.

However, an obvious conclusion the people have come to while paying dearly over the past two years is that the current political structure is not fit for solving today's national problems.

Furthermore, we cannot pioneer a bright future for the country, efficiently weathering challenges at home and abroad, with the current structure of four parties. It is true that the current system of four parties was an outcome of the last general election. But the system resulted from the division of political forces, based on personal and regional relations, rather than from a choice by the people.

Instead of organizing public opinion and uniting national potentials, the existing parties have divided the country into the provinces which support them, and thus have brought about the deepening of national division.

Conflicts which have built up among social strata, generations, and regions, and diverse desires have erupted in the present along with rapid democratization.

The present party system with four parties has been helpless in improving the structure of social and economic conflicts and in embodying the people's aspirations.

As political stability has not been realized, the people's unrest has increased and our economy has reached a critical situation. Our political circles, split into four parties, have failed to lead national development in the rapidly changing world and have given the people unrest and uncertainty, not hope for the future.

At present the East and West are in the whirlwind of epochal reform for freedom and prosperity. Waves of reform and opening have surged even in communist countries, and consequently the system of communism has been successively demolished.

In view of the current international state, we are in a situation in which no one knows what changes will occur in North-South relations as regards the division—which has lasted for nearly half a century—and when they will take place.

Even amid this situation, our political circles have, so far, failed to prepare themselves to solve the national problem and actively open the road of reunification.

At this important crossroad of history we have decided to start a new political system that will give hope to the people and lead the country to a bright future. The situation and the present era demand a new thinking and a resolve to develop the country to a new dimension. We firmly believe that reforming the old political system, which has fallen short of the expectations of the people and which has not been able to keep pace with the development of society, is the will of the people. We have decided to put an end to the political system in which parties are divided or confront each other according to each party's different interests. We have decided to burn away the politics of the old era, which were filled with egotism, self-righteousness, struggle, and antagonism, in the melting pot. We must free our politics from the thinking and structure of the past. At this time, when the 21st century filled with hope is just around the corner, we must hasten the day when our 65 million fellow countrymen, forming a single national community, will enjoy freedom, prosperity, and peace.

On 15 December of last year, as a result of a grand reconciliation among the ruling and opposition parties, we brought to an end the legacies of the past, whose solution had dragged on for 2 years. We firmly believed that this was a genuine turning point that would open a new era of democracy after ending the 40-year struggle for democratization, which was filled with irregularities and mistrust. It is time we practice politics which will help people have their diverse demands fulfilled, which will achieve national prosperity after overcoming the legacies of the past. A new political structure must be formed to successfully carry out the task of democracy while efficiently overcoming the economic crisis and achieving other national tasks. A new political order that will achieve national reconciliation must be established to overcome conflicts and confrontation in our society. A welfare state in which all the people—while maintaining stability—will achieve continued development and in which they will live equally well must be built. The creative political system which will lead to a society of high-technology and information, members of which we will become, must be established.

Looking forward to a reunified fatherland, we must establish a political structure in preparation for national integration. We must realize the politics of hope, which will vigorously open our future; the politics of trust, which will give confidence to the people; and the matured politics which will fully accommodate the diverse strata of society. All of these tasks cannot be carried out within the small-scale political framework which has existed so far. All of us have freed ourselves from the heavy burden of extended rules and authoritarianism. The days of simply dividing people or parties into democratic or antidemocratic parties has passed. The demand of the era is for political forces which have the same belief in freedom and democracy and the same policies to be united to carry out policy-oriented party politics. The new politics demanded by the new spirit of the era must start by boldly breaking the old-fashioned politics, which are unbecoming to new circumstances. We must free ourselves from old-fashioned thinking and points of view from the past era.

Feeling responsibility for today's situation, we three people have decided to jointly fulfill the mission of history. Humbly recalling the support of an absolute majority of the people which was extended to us in the presidential election and the National Assembly elections, we the three people have profoundly discussed how we can satisfy the people's expectations. We have open-heartedly exchanged opinions on all the problems concerning the present and future of the country and our fellow countrymen. Transcending our factional differences and having a single resolve to fulfill our responsibility before history and the people, we have made an important decision to jointly resolve the tasks of this era.

From the different positions as a ruling party and opposition parties, the DJP, RDP, and NDRP have made the utmost efforts for our country. However, today's situation demands that stronger political forces and popular forces be formed. All the national and democratic forces in our society must now be united. In response to the demand of the era, we have decided to give birth to a large people-oriented party by uniting the central democratic forces, thus establishing a new political order based upon political stability. With a firm determination and resolve to become a foundation for building a dignified state that will appear on the center stage of the 21st century, we three people announce the following agreement.

First, for the sake of democratic development, the grand people's reconciliation, and national integration, with a single resolve to serve history and the people, the DJP, RDP, and NDRP will be merged into a new party without any conditions attached, according to the regulation of the Political Parties Law. The name of the new party will tentatively be the Democratic Liberal Party [minjujayudang]. The presidents of the three parties will serve as co-representatives until a party congress is held.

Second, as a people-oriented party in which all moderate central democratic forces participate, the new party has the basic policies of playing a leading role in our efforts for the peaceful reunification of the fatherland based upon democracy and self- esteem; of realizing welfare and justice based upon the concepts of a free democracy and a free market economy; and of promoting national culture. In addition, the new party will create the most appropriate political system and political culture necessary for the development of our country.

Third, the party merger will be carried out according to the desire of the people and the opinions of the party members. The registration of the new party will be completed by the end of February this year. It is agreed in principle that a congress for the new party will be held by the end of May this year. However, a congress will be held, at the latest within 6 months of the registration of the new party as stipulated by the Political Parties Law.

Fourth, a party merger committee composed of five persons from each of the three parties will be formed to efficiently carry out all the procedures for the party merger.

Fifth, for the sake of the total unity of national and democratic forces, after opening our doors wide open, we call on all political parties, organizations, and individuals that have the same view as our party to join us. However, for the sake of political development, through dialogue and reconciliation, we will closely cooperate with any political party, political faction, or organization, as long as it believes in parliamentary democracy.

Dear fellow countrymen: For the first time in our history a ruling party and opposition parties will be merged into a new people-oriented party. A new start will be made in our political history. The birth of a new people-oriented party will stabilize and advance the political system, thus making a fresh start that will lead to a great history. We will build an honorable era of democracy, prosperity, and reunification to win greater support from the people. Let us march forward together to a new world and a future filled with hope. We call on all the people to encourage us and join us. Thank you.

No Reportedly Approached PPD for Coalition

SK2201033090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0314 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 22 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u approached the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) about forming an alliance well before he decided on a merger between the Democratic Justice Party (DJP) and two smaller opposition parties, DJP Chairman Pak Tae-chun said Monday.

Pak told reporters that No once offered to join forces with the PPD but was rebuffed.

"No seriously proposed to Kim Tae-chung, president of the PPD, a coalition between the DJP and PPD. He evidently sounded the PPD out about the coalition," Pak said.

Chong Tong-song, DJP floor leader, said, "As far as I know, No proposed in a meeting with Kim Tae-chung on Jan. 11 a DJP-PPD coalition but was turned down for this and that reason."

Pak admitted exclusion of the PPD from the coalition would inevitably cause feelings of alienation in the Cholla provinces, the political stronghold of Kim Tae-chung, but hinted that No may take some action to soothe such sentiment.

"I think there will be sincere and careful consideration with regard to the feeling of alienation," he said.

A highly-placed ruling party official said that at least one seat on the five-man leadership council of the new party would be allocated to someone from Cholla. He said former PPD Vice President Yi Chung-chae and former Republican Democratic Party Secretary-General Sin Hyong-sik were possibilities.

Pak suggested some PPD lawmakers may join the new party and said, "The gate of the new party will be always open."

Kim Yong-sam Views 'Democratic Liberal Party'

SK2301023690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0208 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—Leaders of the three political parties that announced their merger into a new ruling party Monday have also decided to support the creation of a reformist opposition "as much as possible," Kim Yong-sam, president of the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), said Monday night. He did not elaborate.

Kim, in a prepared statement issued on his return to the RDP headquarters from President No Tae-u's office after announcing the three-way merger, said he and Kim Chong-pil, president of the New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP), will share with No full responsibility for the management of state affairs and will take various initiatives for national harmony and reconciliation.

"We devoted much of our talks to a discussion of how to give the new party an image different from that of traditional ruling parties," Kim said.

"We agreed to pay special attention to the alienated classes and we agreed to give particular consideration to (the regional interests of) the Cholla provinces," the RDP head said.

The RDP-NDRP alliance with the ruling party means the virtual isolation of the Cholla provinces, exclusively represented in the National Assembly by the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) of Kim Tae-chung, now the sole opposition party.

When asked by reporters whether the RDP could now be called as a ruling party, Kim said, "(My party) has become a political party to take responsibility over state affairs...Now is the time to rise above the concept of ruling and opposition parties and to stop viewing things in the perspective of (confrontation between) democratic and anti-democratic forces."

Kim also said he would use the name Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) instead of RDP from now on, as agreed upon in talks with No and Kim Chong-pil Monday.

When asked whether this would mean that he could give instructions directly to the secretary-general of the ruling Democratic Justic Party (DJP) at his discretion, Kim said, "our agreement is a substantial one. I can meet DJP officials at any time."

Asked if he would be chairman of the DLP's five-man leadership council, as was projected by Kim Chong-pil earlier that day, Kim said, "there has been no discussion of this."

Undefined Roles in Party May Cause Trouble

SK2301030290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0254 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u will head South Korea's new mega-party, whose creation by the merger of two of three opposition parties with the ruling party, was announced Monday night, the leader of one of the parties said.

"The three party heads will serve as co-representatives until a national party convention. No one opposed it and there is no difference of status among the co-representatives. However, there is no denying that the president is in a higher position if we respect the unwritten law," Kim Chong-pil told reporter at his party headquarters returning from a meeting with No and Kim Yong-sam.

No, Kim and Kim Yong-sam officially declared the merger of their moderate conservative parties after nine hours of talks Monday, but details of the leadership set-up were missing from the five-point statement issued after the meeting held at the presidential office.

The three agreed only to serve as co-leaders of the new party tentatively dubbed Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) until an inaugural convention can be held some time before the end of May.

They decided No will be DLP president, Kim Yong-sam will be chairman of the five-member DLP leadership council and Kim Chong-pil will be an ordinary council member.

No is president of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, Kim Yong-sam is president of the Reunification Democratic Party and Kim Chong-pil is president of the New Democratic Republican Party. Lack of a complete agreement on the role of the three implies that Kim Yong-sam is resisting No's scheme for separate roles, which could pose a problem before and after the merger, according to political analysts.

Kim Chong-pil said the three co-leaders will meet at Chongwadae once a week to discuss pending issues and at any other time it is necessary.

Ruling out a deepening of regional animosity as a result of the exclusion of the party for peace and democracy led by Kim Tae-chung, Kim said, "the current four-party structure was established in line with regional support and this realignment should be a step forward to political development in the future."

Kim said local elections will be held in the first half of the year as previously proclaimed, but declined to refer to seeking a constitutional amendment to adopt a parliamentary cabinet system.

"The three people agreed on the expression after long hours of discussion on the subject," said Kim, the prime minister under Pak Chong-hui, referring to the vague statement that "the new party will strive to create a political system and culture most suitable for the nation."

Kim Tae-chung harshly denounced the presumed agreement of the three to rewrite the constitution before the current term of the National Assembly expires in April 1992, saying it was against the will of people, but acknowledged the determination of Kim Yong-sam.

"It was a great decision for him to make up his mind to be a hero in a political drama designed to open a new political era and as far as I know his determination will never change," Kim said.

A political analyst said the play is based on a script written by No's men, is directed by Kim Chong-pil and stars Kim Yong-sam.

Kim Tae-chung Calls for Assembly To Resign

SK2301073490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0712 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—Lawmakers and leaders of the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) backed Tuesday a call by PPD President Kim Tae-chung for the resignation of the entire National Assembly and general elections so the people can vote on the merger of the Ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) and two other opposition parties.

Kim calls the merger a "second Yushin coup d'etat." Yushin is the political system introduced by President Pak Chong-hui in 1972 to prolong and strengthen his dictatorship.

The PPD members also voted to adopt a resolution calling for an open struggle against the "conspiracy for one-party dictatorship" by the DJP, Reunification Democratic Party and New Democratic Republican Party.

The three parties do not have the right to "arbitrarily reverse the current political structure," which was given by the people, Kim said. Before they renege on their promises to the people, they need to ask the people's views, he added.

Kim hinted he will take his party into the streets unless the new ruling party agrees to the mass resignation of all lawmakers and the holding of general elections.

"We shall carry out a nationwide signature campaign to get signatures from 10 million people after the extraordinary National Assembly in February if the three parties do not accept our demand," he said.

"The PPD, as the only opposition party, will desperately fight against the one-party dictatorship and the re-emergence of the Yushin system," said Kim.

He said the PPD has support in academic, women's, cultural, youth and dissident circles and it will ask its friends to join "the anti-dictatorship struggle."

Some "unexpected figures" will join the PPD in its national party convention in March, Kim said, not naming them.

Saying he is confident of controlling the current situation, Kim dismissed suggestions that he resign from the top post of the party he created to run for president in 1987.

The opposition leader argued that his short-lived resignation as party president shortly before the general elections in 1988 was of no help in winning National Assembly races.

Some PPD lawmakers who are promoting opposition unification have indirectly indicated that they want Kim to resign.

Reunification Party Endorses Merger Proposal

SK2301085390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0841 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—The Reunification Democratic Party has endorsed party President Kim Yong-sam's decision to fold the flag and join forces with a giant new ruling party.

In a meeting of senior officials and lawmakers Tuesday afternoon, the second largest opposition party voted to form the tentatively named Democratic Liberal Party in alliance with the Ruling Democratic Justice Party [DJP] and the minority New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP].

Spokesman Kang Sam-chae said party members decided to entrust Kim with full power to take all necessary steps for the merger. Since Kim was given a free hand by the party, there is no need for a convention to dissolve the party under its charter, Kang said.

Party vice President Kim Sang-hyon, a seasoned politician born in South Cholla Province, the stronghold of Kim Yong-sam rival Kim Tae-chung, told the meeting he opposes the merger.

"The party and its candidates, in the last general election, pledged to perform democratic reforms and to end the military dictatorship," he said.

Rep. No Mu-hyon, a well-known civil rights fighter, also made clear his opposition to the merger but was prevented from introducing a motion opposing it. No is one of several lawmakers in the party who took steps to oppose the merger. Most were silent, apparently because of their party head's influence on the next general election and on their political careers.

Merger Not for Individuals' 'Hegemonial Bids'

SK2301033490 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Jan 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Merger for New Party"]

[Text] In a cataclysmic turn of events in the nation's political arena, the ruling Democratic Justice Party [DJP], the second opposition Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] and the third opposition New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP] have pronounced their merger to form a major moderate and centrist party, which, in their words, heralds the arrival of a wholesome and creative political culture based on a two-party system.

The proclamation, which stunned the nation as a "political revolution" in the 40-year annals of its constitutional politics, came yesterday after a day-long Chongwadae huddle involving President No Tae-u, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil, who head the DJP, the RDP and the NDRP respectively. It caught the nation by surprise, although the political parties had been for some time probing and maneuvering in search of possible consolidation and coalition to restructure the current four-party system in an effort to ready themselves for the rapidly evolving challenges at home and abroad.

The four-party pluralism, since the time of its outset, has given rise to the politics of confrontational dogmatism and biased partisan interests, not to mention parochial provincialism. Its experiment has led many to doubt its ability to meet the nation's requirements.

The ultimate goal of the two-party system envisaged in the merger seems to be a grand fusion of conservative forces versus progressive elements, although there is room for argument over the definition of progressive. The conservative cause has undeniably won considerable support and sympathy from the public, notably among the people in high- and middle-income brackets. And the movement has been bolstered by the idea that a positive broad-based conservative force fully committed to liberal democracy and free market economy is needed for the nation's present situation and for eventual territorial unification.

Under the circumstances, the first opposition Party for Peace and Democracy seems destined to be relegated to the status of a minor opposition party of some 70 parliamentary seats pitted against the envisioned new ruling party that can boast some 220 seats. Understandably, the PPD denounces the three-way merger as betraying the mandate of the people who voted for the four parties. It charges that the tripartite coalition is nothing but a bid to isolate and preempt the PPD.

The PPD is even threatening to stage a joint struggle with extra-parliamentary dissident forces against the merger of the conservative forces. Yet, a majority of the people, skeptical of the efficiency of the present four-party format, seem to be anxious to avoid seeing their country's stability shaken to the point where it, among other things, is unable to cope with the economic challenges facing it.

But then, the emergence of the new party has its pitfalls. Among others, it is feared to further deepen the regional animosity and alienation that has plagued our political community for the past few years. Without shedding the regionalism, the nation can hardly remain stable—a prerequisite for ensuring a bright future for the nation. Due care is required to head off the pitfalls.

The new party, which professes to seek a parliamentary cabinet system, is expected to be formally launched within a month after ironing out the details of the merger. The coalescing of the three parties under a single banner, "the Democratic Liberal Party," however, would not be easy because of their respective political orientations and power bases.

But the new party, if genuinely faithful to its professed intentions, must not drag and stumble from the very beginning, indulging in old contentions and sour grapes. It could provide an opportunity to induce our politicians into displaying political maturity with a concessionary spirit. Past resentment and vindictiveness must give way to fresh vigor for the sake of our country's development. How the new party comes into being will determine the level of public confidence it enjoys in the future. All told, the merger should in no way prove to be a mere fusion to protect the power of the conservative forces or to expedite the hegemonial bids of certain individuals. Otherwise, it deserves to be approached at this important juncture from a much broader perspective.

People's Acceptance of New Order Takes Time

SK2301040890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Jan 90 p 2

[News analysis by staff reporter Yi Song-yol: "Grand Union Called Political Revolution"]

[Text] Sending shock waves throughout the nation, the announced grand union of conservative forces involving the ruling party and two of the nations' three opposition parties is a political revolution expected to bring about an enormous change in the existing political order.

The union of the three parties—the Democratic Justice [DJP], the Reunification Democratic [RDP] and the New Democratic Republican [NDRP] parties—would surely break the current four-party system, in which the combined forces of the three opposition parties have controlled the National Assembly, and also the traditional notion of a ruling and opposition framework.

A new conservative ruling party would have over two-thirds of the total 299 Assembly seats (127 from the DJP, 59 from the RDP and 35 from the NDRP), compared to 71 for the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD], which would be left as the sole opposition.

That would make a two-party system based on a conservative-versus- progressive framework.

The DJP says the three-party union is a unity of "liberal democratic, middle-of-the-road forces" aiming at democratic development, national reconciliation and inter-Korea unification.

A cabinet system based on the union will provide political stability and help drop the conventional inter-party confrontational structure, the ruling party says.

One of the most surprising factors in the announced union of the three parties and the establishment of a new conservative political party is that the three heterogeneous parties agreed to become one. Another surprising element is that Kim Yong-sam, president of the RDP (who has dubbed his RDP as the only "legitimate opposition") has decided to join the DJP and the NDRP, against which he once fought fiercely.

The three parties seem to have their own reasons for joining the grand union.

The ruling DJP has felt the need to change the existing four-party system, which is based on regionalism, since the beginning of the current 13th Assembly in April 1988, when it failed to get a majority of Assembly seats. And, above all, for lack of a good candidate for the next presidency, the ruling party has floated a trial "balloon" to test the idea of a political restructuring by suggesting an alliance with an opposition party.

Kim Yong-sam for his part has also felt uneasy under the four-party system, in which his RDP as the no. 2 opposition party was often overwhelmed by the rival opposition PPD and the ruling DJP.

He may have felt that something had to change in order to provide favorable conditions for running for the nation's presidency.

President No promised Kim the post of prime minister or President when the Constitution is changed, replacing the presidential system with a parliamentary cabinet system, according to ruling party sources, and that would surely satisfy Kim.

Kim Chong-pil, leader of the minor opposition NDRP, may also have believed that joining the DJP would rid the NDRP of its unsatisfactory status as the smallest party.

It is yet premature to predict how and whether the new party, to be modeled after Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, will contribute to building a new political culture, but some problems are foreseen.

First, the three-party union may touch off fierce protests from the leading opposition PPD, which described the union as a "move to convert the military dictatorship into a one-party dictatorship."

The PPD is threatening that its lawmakers will resign en masse, and, if that does not happen, the PPD is likely to launch a fierce antigovernment struggle in collaboration with dissident forces.

The exclusion of the PPD is in part construed as an isolation of the Cholla province, the political stronghold of PPD leader Kim Tae-chung, and that would then aggravate, rather than ease, regional animosities.

And some lawmakers of the RDP protesting the union may bolt from the union and form their own party, and not a few DJP members who think their political status may be unfavorably affected by the union are not expected to sit idly by and watch the union take place.

Another problem lies in how the new party could reconcile several heterogeneous elements.

When a new party is born, it would have factions, and factional strife for intraparty hegemony is expected.

Since the restructuring was not born of popular desire, but by the needs of some political leaders, it will take time before the new setup can be accepted by the people and settle in as the new political order.

Merger Agreement Termed 'Political Revolution'

SK2301043290 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 Jan 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Surprising Tripartite Merger"]

[Text] The dramatic agreement to organize a new, grand conservative part, merging the three existing parties, is tantamount to a political revolution. The proposed integration between the ruling Democratic Justice Party [DJP] and the second opposition Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] had been especially hard to imagine.

The merger of the RDP and the third opposition New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP] has been discussed for a long time, frequently receiving attention in the press, but their alliance with the ruling DJP is a surprise.

The original scenario apparently called for the unifying of the RDP led by Kim Yong-sam and the NDRP by Kim Chong-pil to make the second largest political group in the country, and edge out the present largest opposition Party for Peace and Democracy headed by Kim

Tae-chung. The ruling DJP was to join hands with these two parties afterwards, taking some time for polling public opinion.

However, this initial plan seems to have been advanced on the heels of the inter-party summits separately held between President No Tae-u, concurrent leader of the DJP, and the leaders of the three opposition parties. As a result, Kim Tae-chung of the first opposition party has been relentlessly excluded from the merger project.

The ruling DJP apparently had an alternative plan to form an alliance with the major opposition PPD, on the assumption of a successful RDP-NDRP integration. But the plan ahs been discarded, since Kim Tae-chung of the PPD made it clear that his party will never join an alliance with the ruling party because of their different political origins and lines.

For the ruling camp, it was wise not to lag behind in the project to build a new political order, initiated by Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil with the foremost goal of political stability. The DJP has tended to become weaker as the end of President No's presidential term draws nearer.

More urgent though for the DJP, RDP and NDRP are the forthcoming elections for local councils, which would reproduce the present four-party structure, if the present system were maintained, with fears of partisan dissension deeply rooted even at the grassroots level. The bizarre development entirely changes the political structure from the four-party system to a two-party one and from a combined opposition majority in the parliament to a majority ruling and minority opposition formula. Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil become bosses of the projected new party, renouncing presidencies of their respective parties.

The grand merger presages a transformation of the present presidential system into a cabinet one through a constitutional revision during the current Assemblymen's tenure ending in 1992. The aggregate lawmakers of the merged three parties reaches 221 out of 299, well over 200, the number needed for constitutional amendment.

Indications are that some lawmakers of the three parties will secede from the projected party in protest against the party merger. But the merger promoters predict that their number will not exceed 20, and they will be unable to change the overall picture. The political realignment thus might appear reasonable and claim considerable support from the public.

But Kim Tae-chung of the PPD for his part has sufficient reasons to call the merger agreement a political coup similar to the Yushin constitutional change under the dictatorial rule of Pak Chong-hui. He and many other politicians termed the agreed merger as "improvised, artificial and unreasonable."

The ultimate goal of the partisan realignment is to perpetuate the grip on power of factional bosses in rotation as in the case of the Liberal Democratic party in Japan under the proposed cabinet parliamentary system. In particular the collusion between President No and RDP head Kim Yong-sam looks quite unnatural, in the light of their enmity in the past.

Kim Yong-sam's departure from the opposition camp is a sort of betrayal of his long-time comrade-in-arms Kim Tae-chung, saliently showing a political evanescence. At the same time, it is doubtful how well Kim Yong-sam, who had long championed anti-government struggles, will be able to adopt himself to working with the governing structure.

Kim Tae-chung may well be criticized for his so-far equivocal attitude, in particular his ambiguous claim to be a middle-of-the-roader, treading the line between conservative and progressive policies. Because of this, he was labelled as close to the left-leaning forces by Kim Chong-pil, who masterminded the tripartite integration.

President No also failed to reveal his real position, or changed his mind too quickly, considering his remarks that the political restructuring along conservative and progressive lines is premature in the present situation in his New Year press conference less than two weeks ago.

All in all, the three-party merger has increased the possibility of deteriorating stability, for the ostracized PPD will surely resort to fierce struggles such as calls for the relinquishment of parliamentary seats, in collaboration with extra-parliamentary dissident forces.

Consequently, the anti-government forces will be possibly united and strengthened with the PPD as driving force, while the inveterate localism will be surely deepened. The isolation of Kim Tae-chung and his party, that has its power base in the Cholla provinces, will be a serious destabilizing factor as far as national reconciliation is concerned.

Kim Tae-chung Comments on Realignment

SK2001112490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0723 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 20 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, stepping up his fight against a growing movement to reshape South Korea's political structure, on Saturday asked President No Tae-u to state for the record whether he intends to push for realignment and for replacement of the presidential system with a parliamentary cabinet system of government.

Kim, president of the main opposition party, the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD), also called on No to explain whether he intends to shelve local elections, due in the first half of the year, because of the moves for restructuring.

Reminding No that in his new year news conference No said he did not want artificial restructuring, the PPD leader insisted No explain the difference between that statement and remarks by Pak Chun-pyong, the secretary-general of No's Democratic Justice Party (DJP), who said the DJP may seek restructuring along with a change to the cabinet system.

Kim, who is strongly resisting moves by rival opposition leaders Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil to form an alliance of conservative and centrist forces, denounced No's "indecisive attitude" as likely to upset the political stability.

"If the ruling circle has changed its attitude in less than 10 days, it must be an attempt to cajole the public as well as to sow confusion in the political scene," Kim said.

No responded to the two Kims' calls for realignment by saying he would carefully consider moves to make changes after reviewing public opinion, but made it clear that restructuring should not be carried out artificially or hastily. But Pak, the no. 3 man in the DJP hierarchy, said Friday that No may consider pushing for realignment and the parliamentary system. It was the first time that a high-ranking DJP official had said No was even considering the reforms, which analysts say would lead to a drastic change in Korean politics.

The two Kims are speedily moving for the change and the DJP has begun responding positively to their moves, causing some consternation and much debate. They are seeking to merge the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) and New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP) to form a bigger opposition alliance and possibly join forces with the DJP in a coalition of pan-conservative forces, a virtual new party.

The DJP wants to create a grand coalition by absorbing the two Kims' parties and other political forces and groups and then swap the presidential system for a parliamentary cabinet system.

Kim Tae-chung balks at both the changes and warned he may launch a nationwide struggle to frustrate the moves, which he fears are designed to reduce his status and isolate him. But the DJP moved a step closer to the reforms Saturday, when party chairman Pak Tae-chun said he knows "the president is carefully considering the restructuring and the constitutional revision."

The two Kims are expected to lay out their detailed plan to reshape the political setup on Wednesday.

No Says Government Should 'Tackle' Economy

SK2301072690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0659 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u, fresh from the merger of his party with two opposition parties, said Tuesday that he might launch a drive to reinvigorate morale and tighten discipline in officialdom.

Meeting National Assembly speaker Kim Chae-sun, Chief Justice Yi Il-kyu and Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun over breakfast to explain the merger, the president said, "Now that political stability has been achieved with political restructuring, the government should actively tackle such pressing issues as the economic problem and crime."

He ordered Kang to take stern punitive measures against officials who have "negative attitudes" or follow a "safety-first principle."

The four-party system, in which the legislature was controlled by the three opposition parties, has engendered an "ill-guided" tendency among government officials to avoid responsibility, No said.

Kang was told to set up in all government ministries and agencies a system for monitoring and evaluating the progress of projects and the discipline of officials.

Ruling camp officials claim that the ruling party's relative weakness in the National Assembly often blocked government initiatives.

Delegates To Meet for 10th Round of Sports Talks

SK2201140990 Seoul YONHAP in English 1243 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 22 (YONHAP)—Delegates from South and North Korea are to meet on Wednesday at the truce village of Panmunjom for the 10th round of talks to discuss preparations for a full-fledged inter-Korean parliamentary conference.

Chae Mun-sik, former chairman of the South Korean National Assembly and Chon Kum-chol of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly will head their respective delegations of five members at the meeting to be held at the Peace House on the southern side of the border village to negotiate the format and agenda of the proposed conference of lawmakers.

Political observers here said Monday that they are skeptical about any progress to be made at the meeting because the North have shown rigid positions in recent sports talks.

In the ninth meeting on Nov. 29 last year, the two sides failed to reach substantial agreement as the North insisted on a joint meeting in which delegates of both sides take part as simple attendants, while Seoul proposed bilateral talks between delegations. Pyongyang also refused Seoul's proposal for a summit meeting to be included in the agenda of the main conference.

During the past contacts for five years since May 1985, the two sides made an agreement on some aspects of the form of the conference: The main conference shall consist of an opening meeting, a discussion session and a closing meeting. They also agreed that all parliamentary members from both sides would take part in the opening and closing meetings while 50 lawmakers from each side should participate in the discussion session.

Semiconductor Chip Protection Law To Be Enacted

SK1901013190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Jan 90 p 8

[Text] The government is set to introduce a law for the protection of semiconductor chips within this year in order to diffuse trade friction with the United States.

Deputy Premier-Economic Planning Minister Cho Sun convened a meeting with other government agencies at the EPB [Economic Planning Board] Wednesday to discuss ways of solving trade issues with the United States.

Among the outstanding bilateral issues are the shipbuilding and telecommunications industries, the import liberalization for beef and other agricultural and fisheries products, the won's exchange rate against the U.S. dollar and the protection of intellectual property rights.

Washington is scheduled to name priority foreign countries [PFC] engaging in unfair trade practices with the U.S. by April in accordance with the 1988 strong protectionist omnibus trade act.

Korea is one of the countries which the United States is likely to name a PFC unless Seoul makes concessions on trade issues with Washington by April.

Last year, Korea avoided being designated a PFC in connection with Super Section 301 of the omnibus trade act after it announced a timetable for the import liberalization of agricultural and fisheries products along with substantial concessions on other trade issues.

The participants in the meeting generally agreed that trade friction with the United States will escalate more than last year as U.S. Congressional elections are scheduled for this year.

They decided to combine efforts to settle trade issues in a bid to minimize trade conflicts with the United States.

In case Korea is named a PFC, the United States will take strong retaliatory measures against imports of Korean products.

Super Section 301 empowers the U.S. Trade Representative to curb imports of any specific item or all products from any country which is designated a PFC.

Korea is now on the watch list over the issue of intellectual property rights.

Korea is also under strong pressure to reach an accord by Feb. 23 on the opening of the telecommunications industry in negotiations with the United States.

On the other hand, the United States is pressing Korea hard to entirely liberalize the import of beef, to open wider the agricultural and fisheries markets and not to manipulate the parity rate of the won against the greenback and other major foreign currencies.

Washington also demands that Korea should abrogate the supply of government subsidies to shipbuilding industries.

The participants decided to conduct negotiations with the United States over the entire opening of the beef market only after the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade makes its final verdict on the issue next month.

GATT has already handed out its preliminary ruling that Korea is no longer eligible to restrict imports of beef under the pretext of defending its current account.

The government will step up efforts to protect intellectual property rights, while operating the current special task force.

The task force will especially crack down on domestic sales and exports of pirated publications, video tapes and computer software programs.

The government will also complement the import liberalization schedules for agricultural and fisheries products.

The possible mounting trade conflict with the United States will add more problems to the development of the Korean economy.

Even though the United States understands the difficulties the Korean economy has faced since last year due to the won's revaluation and labor disturbances, Washington is opposing Seoul's move to delay the opening of markets.

Government To Help Develop TV, Chip Technology

SK1901015790 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Jan 90 p 6

[Text] The government will help develop technology for high-definition television and 64M D-RAM computer chips during the next five years, Minister of Trade and Industry Han Sung-su said yesterday.

HDTV and 64M D-RAM chips are part of a government plan to develop high-tech industries as the economic base for future industrial output and exports.

In a report to President No Tae-u, Han said the government will create a 1 trillion won fund to finance high-tech development programs.

Han said the government will help develop digital television and ceramic engines as prospective export items.

Designing, molding and heat treatment will also be developed as core technologies for industrial production, he said.

The Korea Advanced Institute of Technology, set up last year to develop industrial technology, will help private businesses develop needed technology, he said.

The government, he said, will encourage universities to establish industrial technology institutes in cooperation with businesses.

A panel of government officials and experts from the privates sector will be established to coordinate industrial restructuring this year, he said.

It will determine which industries have lost competitiveness and need to move their production lines to foreign countries where labor costs are low, he said.

The government will offer incentives to businesses moving their production lines because of low competitiveness, he said.

For these businesses, he said, the government plans to establish industrial estates in Southeast Asia and China. The government will push for production promotion, he said.

A 100 billion won fund will be created this year to make loans to businesses investing in factory automation, he said.

For balanced regional development, he said, the government will create 66 million sq. meters of industrial estates in provinces.

Factories located in Seoul's metropolitan area will be encouraged to move to provincial industrial estates, he said.

The government will arrange loans to businesses investing in facilities for the production of export items, he said.

To promote exports by the heavy and chemical industrials, he said, 750 billion won will be made available for exports conducted on a deferred payment basis.

An export insurance corporation will be established to help explore new markets, he said.

Statistics on Korean Overseas Investment Noted

SK1501024690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0228 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 15 (YONHAP)—East-Bloc nations, except for China, received their first South Korean investments last year, while total overseas Korean investments nearly doubled in value from 1988, a central bank report said Monday. The Bank of Korea (BOK) reported investments in two projects in Hungary, totalling 46.5 million U.S. dollars, and two in the Soviet Union, 500,000 dollars. Investment in China reached 14.3 million dollars in 18 projects, up from 13.6 million dollars in 10 projects in 1988.

The industry invested 369 overseas projects last year, up from 253 in 1988, the report said. In terms of value, the investments surged 93.1 percent to 927 million dollars from 480 million dollars. BOK attributed the sharp rise to the firmness of the Korean won, rising protectionism in the industrialized countries and the government lifting of overseas investment restrictions.

Investments in Southeast Asia amounted to 276 million dollars in 196 projects, or 53 percent of all, compared with North America with 434 million dollars in 84 projects and Latin America with 76 million dollars in 34 projects. The industry invested 452 million dollars in 211 projects in the manufacturing sector, or 57.2 percent of all, followed by international trade in 95 projects (25.7 percent), fisheries in 12 projects (3.3 percent) and transportation and warehousing in eight projects (2.2 percent).

In the manufacturing, investments in textiles and clothing were tallied at 60 million dollars in 64 projects, or 30.3 percent, compared with assembled metals and machinery with 66 million dollars in 36 projects and petrochemicals with 33 million dollars in 28 projects. Small- and medium-sized firms with fewer than 300 employees, invested 187 million dollars in 226 projects, up from 131 in 1988.

Burma

Symbols Allotted to 34 More Political Parties

BK2201154190 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] The Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanma [Burma] has issued Announcement No 365, dated 22 January 1990—the 12th day of the waning moon of Pyatho, 1351 Myanma era. The announcement reads:

Subject: Allocating Symbols for Candidates Representing Political Parties

The Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections, in accordance with the rulings under Bylaw No 106 of the People's Assembly Election Law and after consultation with the political parties concerned on 22 January 1990, has allocated the following symbols to the candidates representing political parties and organizations that are competing in 5 to 24 constituencies:

1. People's Democratic Party—flower vase symbol.
2. Unity and Development Party—ink bottle and pen symbol.
3. Graduates and Old Students Democratic Association—lantern symbol.
4. National Peace and Democracy Party—bridge symbol.
5. Union Karen League—wristwatch symbol.
6. Democratic Party for New Society—lighthouse symbol.
7. People's Volunteers Organization, Burma—bugle symbol.
8. Kachin State National Democratic Party—matchbox symbol.
9. Mon National Democratic Front—flower symbol.
10. All-Burma Democratic People's Power Organization—house symbol.
11. Chin National League for Democracy—key chain symbol.
12. Union of Burma Main AFPFL Headquarters—Gaungbaung [traditional headwear] symbol.
13. Democratic League for the National Races of the Shan State—cymbals symbol.
14. Democratic Human Rights Party—bicycle symbol.
15. Naga Hills Regional Progressive Party—plane symbol.
16. Youth Unity Party—flashlight symbol.
17. Workers Unity Party—ship symbol.
18. All-Burma National Progressive Democracy Party—sailboat symbol.
19. Kayah State All Nationalities League for Democracy—well symbol.
20. Kachin State National Congress for Democracy—bell symbol.
21. Arakan National Unity Organization, ANU—necklace symbol.
22. Union Pa-oh National Organization—mango symbol.
23. National Democratic Party for Human Rights—car symbol.
24. Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League, Original Headquarters, Burma—electric bulb symbol.
25. League of Peasants Union, Union of Burma—tractor symbol.
26. United Trade Union Congress, Union of Burma—factory symbol.
27. Ta-ang Palaung National League for Democracy—kettle symbol.
28. Kachin National Congress—chair symbol.
29. Wa National Development Party—umbrella symbol.
30. Lishu National Solidarity Party, LNS—tree symbol.
31. Karen National Congress for Democracy—palm tree symbol.
32. Anticommunist, Antisocialist, Antitotalitarian Free Democracy League—train symbol.
33. Lahu National Development Party—smoking pipe symbol.
34. Arakan People's Democratic Front—water pot symbol.

By the authority vested in me,
Signed: Aye Maung, secretary.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Receives Indian Official 18 Jan

BK2001084890 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] On 18 January at the Council of Ministers office, Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, granted an audience to His Excellency Chandrashekhar Dasgupta, secretary of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, who was on a 3-day visit to the State of Cambodia.

Comrade Chairman Hun Sen cordially welcomed the Indian deputy foreign minister and expressed, through the latter, profound thanks to the Indian prime minister and foreign minister who conveyed a greetings message to him on the 11th anniversary of the State of Cambodia's 7 January national day.

The Cambodian Council of Ministers chairman considered the visit to the State of Cambodia paid by His Excellency Dasgupta an encouragement to expanding the relations between the two countries and to promoting the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem. He added that the visit would create a new environment in bilateral relations.

Taking advantage of the occasion, Comrade Chairman Hun Sen also briefed His Excellency Dasgupta on the process of the quest for a settlement of the Cambodian problem, especially since the ending of the Paris International Conference on the Cambodian issue.

For his part, His Excellency Dasgupta deeply thanked the Cambodian Council of Ministers chairman for the kind audience and conveyed to the latter the greetings and best wishes of the Indian prime minister and foreign minister.

The Indian deputy foreign minister said the peoples of the two countries not only have historical bonds, but the same mentality as well. He added that the Indian Government would pay great attention to promoting bilateral relations. He voiced support for the position of the State of Cambodia, but objection to a recurrence of the genocidal regime; saying although the Indian Government was changed, the relations with Cambodia were not affected. In conclusion, he said he would report the situation in Cambodia to the Indian prime minister and foreign minister.

Present at the meeting were (Vandid), charge d'affairs of the Indian Embassy in Cambodia; and Comrade Sok An, deputy foreign minister of the State of Cambodia. The meeting was conducted in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding.

Pol Saroeun Greets Indian Counterpart

BK2001094590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] On the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the Indian Armed Forces, leaders of the Defense Ministry of our State of Cambodia have sent greetings messages to leaders of the Defense Ministry of the Republic of India.

Comrade Lieutenant General Pol Saroeun, deputy defense minister of the State of Cambodia and chief of the General Staff of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF], sent a greetings message to His Excellency General V.N. Sharma, chief of the General Staff of the Indian Armed Forces. The message says:

Your Excellency: On the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the Indian Armed Forces, on behalf of the CPAF cadres and combatants and in my own name, I am very glad to extend our sincere and warmest greetings and best wishes to you and all commanders, officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers of the fraternal Indian Armed Forces.

May you enjoy good health, powerful strength, and success in carrying out all your noble tasks.

May the bond of friendship and solidarity between our two peoples and Armed Forces further strengthen and develop forever.

Please, Your Excellency, accept my highest regards.

Tie Banh Greets Lao Counterpart on Army Day

BK2101082590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] On the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the Lao People's Army [LPA], Comrade General Tie Banh, defense minister of our State of Cambodia; Comrade Gen Bou Thang, chief of the General Political Department of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF]; and Comrade Lieutenant General Pol Saroeun, deputy defense minister and chief of the CPAF General Staff, have sent greetings messages to Comrade Gen Khamtai Siphandon, defense minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Comrade Lt Gen Osakan Thammatheva, deputy defense minister and chief of the LPA General Political Department; and Comrade Lt Gen Ai Souli-ngaseng, chief of the LPA General Staff.

The message from Comrade Gen Tie Banh to Comrade Gen Khamtai Siphandon said:

Dear Comrade Minister: On the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the LPA, on behalf of cadres and male and female combatants of the CPAF and in my own name, I am very glad to extend sincere and warmest congratulations and best wishes to you and to all cadres, male and female combatants of the LPA.

Under the wise and correct leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, during the past 41 years the heroic Lao people and valiant LPA struggled to surmount all obstacles; smashed all wars of destruction of colonialism and imperialism; and scored total victory, liberating their motherland from the oppressive regime and completely realizing their national democratic revolution.

At present, the LPA has grown steadily, and all categories of its forces—the central, local, guerrilla, and militia forces—have been built and developed firmly both quantitatively and qualitatively. Moreover, the LPA has carried on its valiant traditions, struggling undauntedly against all forms of destructive maneuvers of the enemies of all stripes; holding aloft the banner of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation; and assisting mentally and materially in the struggle against common enemies in order to seize complete victory for the revolution in each country. We highly value this valiant and heroic act.

Once again, I wish the comrade minister, cadres, male and female combatants of the LPA good health, happiness, powerful strength, and greater victories in all tasks to build and defend the socialist Lao motherland.

Please, comrade, accept my highest regards.

UN Chief 'Pleased' by Security Council Meeting

BK2001082690 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0406 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 20 January (SPK)—UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar is very pleased with the outcome of the meeting on Cambodia held on 15-16 January by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, said an official representative of the UN secretary general at a news briefing on Wednesday [17 January].

The secretary general is considering "meticulous" study of the statement issued at the conclusion of the meeting. It is accepted that the five members of the Security Council could play a significant role in the quest for a settlement of the Cambodian problem. They have enhanced the UN role in the settlement. This is a new indication of the growing credibility of the world organization, which is able to act effectively in its capacity as a mechanism to settle conflicts peacefully.

Hun Sen Makes 'Concessions' on UN Role

BK2101024490 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jan 90 pp 1, 3

[By THE NATION correspondent Somphong Kittinaradon]

[Text] Cambodia's Premier Hun Sen has significantly softened his stand on Australia's peace proposal for an interim UN administration of Cambodia after a ceasefire agreement, diplomatic and intelligence sources told THE NATION yesterday.

In his last meeting with Australian Deputy Foreign Minister Michael Costello in Svay Rieng province on the Vietnamese border two weeks ago, Hun Sen agreed to the establishment of a national supreme council that would transfer the country's ruling authority to a UN administration. The national supreme council, originally called the National Reconciliation Committee, is the key part of one of the two variations of the Australian peace plan.

In the formula, Australia has proposed that both the resistance Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Phnom Penh government dismantle their "top structure" to allow the United Nations to run the country with a mandate from the national supreme council, established as a symbol of not only national reconciliation but also of Cambodian sovereignty.

Hun Sen rejected out of hand this formula when Costello proposed it at their earlier meeting in Phnom Penh in mid-December, although he appeared inclined to consider the other Australian variation on a UN administration.

With this, the two governments would remain, each administering the areas under their control after a ceasefire. The United Nations would then step in to supervise the divided administration, conduct a census in the two parts and organize a general election.

In the Svay Rieng meeting, Hun Sen also made the following concessions:

—The National Supreme Council to be chaired by top resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk may include Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan as "senior statesman". In principle, members of the council would be classfied as non-partisan Cambodian figures. (Sihanouk, however, said on Friday that he would not head such a council but would instead send his son Prince Norodom Ranariddh in his place.)

—Hun Sen, for the first time, agreed to accept a UN role in the International Control Mechanism (ICM) to verify a ceasefire and maintain peace during the election and the formation of a new government. In July and August last year at the first round of the Paris International Conference, Hun Sen and his Soviet, Vietnamese and Lao allies, maintained their counterproposal that the ICM must be either sponsored by the Paris conference or the UN secretary general in his personal capacity.

The Cambodian premier's only condition was for the United Nations to vacate the Cambodian seat, currently occupied by the resistance Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK).

Hun Sen's concessions conincided with an unprecedented string of six bomb explosions in Phnom Penh on Jan 6. Confirming the attacks, Western intelligence sources told THE NATION that the bombs were planted by Khmer Rouge agents in the capital although one was found and defused before it went off.

The bombs went off near government military and administration points around the city, the intelligence sources said.

"The sabotage was obviously done for its psychological effects on the government and the population," one source said.

The sources believe that advances by the resistance and failure by the government to stop them was party responsible for Hun Sen's concessions.

By all indications, the fall of Sisophon, a strategic district capital of Banteay Meanchey province in western Cambodia, appears imminent given the high morale of the resistance fighters who have shifted from guerrilla warfare into traditional, open fighting following the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.

After Sisophon, the second largest city of Battambang, already under seige, would be within the reach of the resistance, the source said.

One report said Vietnam had tried to alter the military trend by sending 3,000 reinforcements, disguised as Cambodian Government soldiers, to Phnom Penh and 2,000 others to Kampong Cham province in central Cambodia late last month but there seemed little they could do to stop the resistance advances.

"The resistance strategy is to pin down all the major government forces wherever they were and disrupt their logistic supply routes in western Cambodia," one intellience source said.

The besieged towns on the front line have frequently asked for reinforcements and logistic support from Phnom Penh in the past months but Phnom Penh could only tell them to try to stand on their own feet, according to several intelligence reports.

Another indication of the government force's low morale was the few "young Cambodian soldiers" the government had been able to recruit throughout the country from November until early this month.

"Only about 2,000 were recruited in the latest campaign, which also indicates that there are few young people left the government can recruit any longer," one source said.

Naturally, the resistance, particularly the battle-hardened Khmer Rouge, has so far maintained its no-compromise position amid a flurry of diplomatic activity aimed at a Cambodian break-through.

"I think the resistance is delaying the peace process to score more military gains. Sisophon is probably a test case as the original plan called for an all-out attack on the town last month but was delayed without any apparent military reason. I think the resistance was probably waiting to gauge reactions from the international community before making another major stride forward," one source said.

When Australia floated its peace plan last month, the resistance's reactions were, at best, lukewarm. In fact, they privately said that even the first formula in which the CGDK and the PRK be dismantled for a UN transitional rule came short of satisfying them.

They maintained that the grassroots clandestine organizations laid down by the Vietnamese would remain intact despite a dissolution of the top administrative structures of the two governments. These organizations were identified by Chim Sun An, former second secretary of the Cambodian Embassy in Praque who defected last October. He cited B-63 or the supreme body overseeing all Vietnamese affairs in Cambodia, B-40, which supervised undercover civilian specialists scattered in various ministries and undercover military advisers working with Cambodian commanders.

The Khmer Rouge has drafted a joint communique announcing the coalition's rejection of the Australian peace plan and insisting on their original five-point peace plan calling for the dissolution of both governments and subsequent formation of a four-party coalition to rule the country and organize general elections.

The Khmer Rouge forwarded the draft to Prince Sihanouk for his approval, while Son Sann, leader of the other non-communist faction, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), voiced strong objection to the proposal, saying it would "confuse the international community". Son Sann also argued that it could prompt various countries to accuse the resistance of deliberately poising obstacles to a peace settlement when the flurry of diplomatic activity was at its height.

Son Sann's objection shot down the Khmer Rouge proposal before the prince could approve it, however, Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan still submitted the draft to Costello during their Bangkok meeting on Jan 4.

Sihanouk, meanwhile, was cautious in his reaction to the Australian peace plan. The prince was on Friday quoted by Reuter as refusing to head the National Supreme Council, which the five powers of the UN Security Council mentioned as a possible element in breaking the Cambodian stalemate at their Paris meeting last week. However, he said he would appoint his son Prince Ranariddh to the council if it was formed.

His reaction was seen by diplomatic sources as a tactic to press Hun Sen into promising that the two regimes would be dismantled with the formation of the supreme council.

Earlier on Dec 11, the prince said that if the four-party coalition could not be formed, then his last concession would be to follow the four-step plan of simultaneously dismantling the two governments, forming a UN-sponsored ICM [International Control Mechanism] and IPKF (international peace keeping force), disarming all rival Cambodian armies by the IPKF and the formation of a UN trusteeship to run Cambodia during the transitional period.

At a series of meetings with Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas at the Williamsburg conference in Chiang Mai on Jan 10, resistance leaders maintained different degrees of their stated positions when courted to join a new round of peace talks.

Alatas was sounding them out on his proposal for the Cambodian factions to attend another Jakarta meeting, which would include participants of the previous two JIM's (Jakarta informal meetings) as well as France and Australia, diplomatic sources said.

Khieu Samphan and Im Choodeth of the KPNLF said they wanted another round of the Paris conference, and not JIM III, while Ranariddh said he would represent his father at JIM and that if the Paris conference was held, his father would certainly go.

Diplomatic sources, however, said the resistance may relent somewhat after more military advances. At present, there is already concern in the West and Thailand that if no agreement is finally reached, Cambodia could fall to the Khmer Rouge. Asked about the possibility, Thai sources said that the resistance advances may have to be stopped short of ocuppying the entire country.

Another said the final solution at an appropriate time may be a divided Cambodian administration under a UN umbrella.

Phnom Penh Radio Cites 1989 'Enemy' Casualties

BK2001095990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] In 1989, our Armed Forces in Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, and Kompong Thom Provinces put out of action 6,445 enemy soldiers, including 2,720 killed on the battlefield, 1,742 wounded, and 502 captured [all figures as heard] and seized nearly 2,000 assorted weapons and several tons of ammunition.

Banteay Meanchey Province took the lead in smashing and capturing the enemy forces, particularly during the last 3 months of the year.

In Siem Reap Oddar Meanchey Province, during the 1989 rainy-season offensive, our Armed Forces killed 354 soldiers from the three enemy groups, captured 165, and wounded 277 others. They also persuaded 516 enemy soldiers of all stripes to surrender. Among those who surrendered were 144 Pol Pot soldiers, 164 Sereika [Son Sann] soldiers, and 208 Moulinaka [Sihanoukist] soldiers. They also seized 1,014 assorted weapons and a large quantity of war materiel.

In the current dry season, the three enemy groups will suffer even more losses in terms of manpower as said by Defense Minister Comrade Tie Banh during the celebration of the 11th anniversary of the 7 January national day. He said that in this year's dry season, the deeper the enemy groups try to push on with their adventure, the better we will be able to deal with them.

Life Reported 'Normal' in Battambang 20 Jan

BK2001063990 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0420 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 20—A 10-day stay in the provincial town of Battambang, some 300 km west of Phnom Penh, has enabled us to eyewitness great efforts of the local inhabitants to overcome untold difficulties in national defense and construction.

The provincial town of Battambang, the second largest city of the country, like other towns in Cambodia, has its own legend. Document has cited its name since mid-sixth century with its place close to the ruins of Banon, Wat Baset, Prasat Sneng, and, particularly, those of the Ek-phnum which attested a very high degree of civilization during the grand epoch of Angkor.

Over the past 11 years, Battambang has spared no efforts to heal its wounds left behind by the genocidal Pol Pot regime and develop the locality comprehensively.

We arrived in Battambang on the eve of the 11th national day of the State of Cambodia (Jan. 7) which had been joyfully celebrated by the local people. We toured many industrial establishments, historical and cultural places, pagodas, and markets, and talked with several provincial officials and ordinary people.

Provincial officials briefed us on the Pol Potist bandits' sabotage activities against the peaceful life of the people living in border areas. They rejected many false reports spread by the "Radio of Democratic Kampuchea".

"A sheer fabrication made by the enemy propaganda was about the Khmer Rouge's offensives on the provincial town and its 4-hour occupation of the town on January 6-7," stressed Yang Khan, secretary of the provincial party committee.

He said that on the 11th national day the local people gathered in many places to celebrate the country's major anniversary. All public places, offices, hospitals, shools, factories were decorated with national flags and red streamers bearing the inscriptions welcoming the development of the State of Cambodia. Battambang dwellers went to entertainments, cinemas, and video shops. High-level party and state delegations called on frontline officers and combatants and peasants in remote border areas.

He reaffirmed that life remained normal in the town and the enemy could do nothing more than its conventional hit-and-run attacks. However, he said, Battambang would stand vigilant and combat-ready to defend the gains of the revolution and the safety of the population.

Yang Kan said within the first week of January, regular forces in Battambang province wiped out 66 Pol Potists, wounded many others and seized many firearms. "The local army and people are determined to firmly defend the province while giving open arms to receive misled people who desert the enemy rank," he said.

We also talked with Bun Ty, a peasant of Rattanak village, Svay Op precinct of the provincial town, on the general situation in the province since the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers. He said he and many other local people were well aware of the perfidious moves of the enemy, especially its psychological war and misinformation about its control of the town.

Along with the self-defence task, Battambang has endeavoured to make all-round achievements. The city with a population of 120,000 has built nearly 20 km of road, three public parks, two squares, a market, many schools, one hospital, a stadium, and several entertainment centres.

The provincial town runs seven industrial establishments including a jute-bag factory and a textile mill and more than a dozen small industrial and handicraft workshops.

The busiest places were the provincial market and the bus station. Pedestrians, bicycles, and motorcycles carrying farm products and other commodities were shuttling from the bus station. Some 50 buses and trucks carrying passengers and goods have daily linked Battambang to neighbouring provinces such as Seam Reap-Oddar Meanchey, Banteay Meanchey, Pursat, Kompong Chhnang, and the capital city of Phnom Penh. From time to time we saw convoys of trucks loaded with surplus paddy sold by the local peasants to the state running to other southern provinces and cities.

On January 11 we called at "Damrei Sar" pagoda (white elephant). Elder people in traditional dresses with ancestor sticks and candles and food in their hands packed the place. "Damrei Sar", one of the country's oldest pagodas, "Pothiveal," "Kampheng," and "Sangker," is among the best known pagodas in Battambang and in the country as well.

People are entitled to follow religions they believe. They come to pagodas to receive Buddhist commandments and pray for an early national reconciliation and a lasting peace in Cambodia.

We also visited vestiges of a number of temples such as temples Prasat Sel Nguor and Wat Baset, which have marked a prodigious and brilliant past of the Khmer nation. We were deeply impressed by the breath-taking beauty of "Ek-phnom" pagoda which stood mirrored over a transparent stream.

Our trip ended with success what we have seen in and Battambang its provincial town are quite contrary to the enemy's propaganda. Life proceeds as normal as it was seen in this northwestern border province of Cambodia.

UN Security Council Joint Statement Reported

BK2001045390 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Excerpt of the UN Security Council's joint statement on the Cambodian issue; dated 16 Jan]

[Text] The five permanent members of the UN Security Council—the United States, the Soviet Union, China, France, and Britain—met in Paris, France, on 15-16 January to discuss the Cambodian problem. At the conclusion of the meeting on 16 January, they issued a statement saying that a settlement of the Cambodian problem by military means is unacceptable, and peace can only be achieved through a comprehensive political solution, including the verified withdrawal of foreign troops—meaning the Vietnamese forces—a cease-fire, and the cessation of outside military aid.

The statement added that the objective is self-determination for the Cambodian people through free, just, and democratic elections. All the members accepted that a UN role in the settlement of the Cambodian problem should be enhanced and the withdrawal of all foreign forces should be verified by the United Nations.

The statement further pointed out that elections should be conducted in a neutral political atmosphere in which no party would be advantaged; the five members of the UN Security Council commit themselves to respecting the results of free and just elections; and all Cambodians should enjoy equal rights, freedoms, and opportunities to take part in the election process.

Sihanouk 'Absolutely Opposes' Nation's Partition

BK2101022690 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the Cambodian resistance forces and president of Democratic Kampuchea, issued on 16 January a statement categorically rejecting the lackey puppet Phnom Penh regime's proposal on establishing a parallel administration in Cambodia.

The statement said that Hun Sen and his accomplices, who are foreign lackeys, put forth the proposal because in each passing week and month they have increasingly lost territory to the benefit of the Cambodian national resistance forces.

Our national resistance forces have continually scored victories on the battlefield and liberated more and more villages, communes, and districts.

The statement pointed out that the samdech absolutely opposes the partition of the country as has happened to Korea, Germany, and Vietnam. If Cambodia were divided, Vietnam, in two or three years, would certainly exert full control over Cambodia's territory under Hun Sen's administration.

Attributes Idea to 'Traitors'

HK1601100890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1007 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Beijing, Jan 16 (AFP)—Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk Tuesday rejected any form of partition in Cambodia, saying only "traitors" would come up with such an idea.

In a statement issued here, Prince Sihanouk said partition was an attempt to shore up the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh regime against recent gains by Cambodian guerrillas on the battlefield.

"Only traitors would think of a partition of their country," he said, attributing the idea to Phnom Penh's Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co said Sunday that Phnom Penh was ready to offer the Cambodian resistance a peace plan under which the guerrillas would administer part of the country.

But Mr. Hun Sen said Monday it was "premature" to discuss new peace proposals such as partition.

Prince Sihanouk, currently residing in Beijing, heads the tripartite Cambodian resistance that groups the Khmer Rouge, nationalists led by former Premier Son Sann, and the former monarch's own guerrillas.

Hanoi invaded Cambodia in late 1978 to oust a genocidal Khmer Rouge regime and install a client government in Phnom Penh.

Sihanouk Refuses To Head 'Supreme' Council

BK2001040990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Jan 90 p 6

[Text] Exiled Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk refused yesterday to head a Supreme National Council suggested as part of a proposed settlement of the Cambodian conflict.

The council was included in a 16-point list of principles for solving the 11-year conflict produced by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council at a meeting in Paris on Tuesday.

Sihanouk, who heads a coalition of three guerrilla groups, said such a council should be established only after the complete dismantling of the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh, which they are fighting to overthrow.

"I refuse in advance and unconditionally to preside (over) this famous council," the prince told REUTERS in Bangkok, adding that the idea originated in Phnom Penh and masked Vietnamese intentions to maintain control over the eight million Cambodians.

Sihanouk, while backing a strong UN role in the peace process and the staging of a general election, wants an interim government to be formed of all four warring factions, headed by himself.

He said if a National Supreme Council were formed, he would appoint his son Prince Norodom Ranariddh, who heads his faction's armed forces, to the body.

Sihanouk, who ruled the country for nearly 30 years until overthrown by a coup in 1970, is championed by the West and China as the figure most likely to be able to unite the warring Cambodian factions.

Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen has rejected a proposal by Sihanouk that he dismantle his administration, set up after the 1978 Vietnamese invasion that ousted the Khmer Rouge, simultaneously with the disbanding of the guerrilla coalition.

Hun Sen has proposed as one variation that the two stay in place during an interim period leading to elections, with the guerrillas administering territory they occupy in the west, East European diplomats in Phnom Penh have said.

Son Sann Plans To See Sihanouk in Beijing

BK2301063690 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and prime minister of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, arrived in Bangkok, Thailand, the day before yesterday [21 January] from France after ending his mission to the United Nations and Europe. His excellency will continue his trip to the PRC to discuss the Cambodian problem with His Royal Highness Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk in Beijing. After that, he will attend a meeting in Seoul, South Korea, to be held by former state leaders, including former presidents and prime ministers.

Upon his arrival at Don Muang Airport in Bangkok, Thailand, His Excellency Son Sann said that he felt terribly sorry for not being able to visit the Cambodian people as planned due to the political situation and the need for him to go and see Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk.

In Bangkok, His Excellency Son San is to meet with officials and ambassadors of some friendly countries.

Sihanouk Sends 'Special Message' to Youths

BK2101125590 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 21 Jan 90

[Message of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk to Cambodian youths inside the country; dated 11 January—recorded]

[Text] I, Samdech Euv [Sihanouk's popular title] Norodom Sihanouk, would like to send this special message to all of my beloved children, youths living inside our Cambodia, our Cambodian motherland.

I would like to address this message, which has not been prepared beforehand in writing, to all children inside our country in an intimate manner, as members of the same family have always done in line with our traditions. In the past, I and my compatriots used to be very intimate. Some children might never have seen me but might have heard their parents and grandparents talk about Samdech Euv Norodom Sihanouk, about the era under the samdech euv—which was peaceful, when our country enjoyed independence and territorial integrity, when we jointly built our country prosperously in all fields and how we enjoyed happiness. Children of this generation may know me because their parents, uncles, aunts, grandfathers, and grandmothers talked about me in recalling the past when we enjoyed independence, freedom, happiness, and prosperity in building our country according to the plan of the Sangkom Reas Niyom, which was then our national united front. That era lasted from 1953, when we gained full independence from France, to 17 March 1970. Since then, our country has endlessly experienced great misery.

Children of this generation must be well aware that the current war is a war between the Cambodian patriots—the fighters who are willing to sacrifice their lives for the liberation of our nation from the claws of the communist Soviet imperialists and the communist Vietnamese colonialists and expansionists in the SRV—and Hun Sen's army and Hun Sen's boss, that is the Vietnamese who have come to annex our territory and invade our country, causing the loss of our independence and honor. These Vietnamese came to our country in December 1978 because the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin clique had requested them to come to invade our territory using the pretext of helping to liberate our country from the Pol Pot-Khmer Rouge clique. Since then, the Vietnamese have decided to turn our Cambodia into their satellite, like Laos. That is, they want Indochina to be as in the French colonialist era. At that time, the French were the boss of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. This time, the red Vietnamese, Vietnamese communists who control Indochina from Hanoi, have turned Cambodia and Laos into their slaves.

In Laos, although the resistance movement is not as strong and powerful nor as well-organized as our Cambodian resistance movement, the Lao people and the Lao patriots have carried on their struggle despite all difficulties and are willing to sacrifice their lives for their motherland in the cause of struggle against the Vietnamese colonialists and Soviet imperialists. The Soviet imperialists, the Soviet Union, have provided weaponry, tanks, aircraft, artillery, and all kinds of war means to Vietnam and its lackeys, the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin clique, for use in smashing the movement of the Cambodian patriots. The Cambodian patriots have done nothing wrong except for fighting to defend their national honor, except for fighting resolutely in order to liberate Cambodia from the claws of the Soviet Union and the Vietnamese communists and rebuild a Cambodia that is 100 percent independent and enjoys territorial integrity, at sea and on land, as during the samdech euv's era or the Sangkom Reas Niyom era between 1960 and 1969.

You must understand that our Cambodian fighters do not get any salary, but they are willing to sacrifice their lives for the liberation of our motherland from the claws of the Soviet and Vietnamese communists. The Cambodian resistance movement headed by Samdech Euv Norodom Sihanouk does not want anything else but to rebuild our Cambodia as a fully independent state that enjoys its territorial integrity as in the Sangkom Reas Niyom era. The Sangkom Reas Niyom was killed by the Lon Nol clique. Thus, there is no longer a single-party movement in our national society as before. There are now four parties and four armies—three armies and three parties in the resistance movement on the one side, and an army and a party of the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen clique on the side of the Vietnamese colonialists and Soviet imperialists.

All children must understand that this resistance movement is composed of the following:

1. Samdech Euv's front and the Sihanoukist National Army [ANS];
2. Mr Son Sann's front; and
3. The Khmer Rouge's Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan-Ta Mok-Son Sen group.

Messrs Son Sen and Khieu Samphan are presently in charge of Democratic Kampuchea's side, the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, and the Khmer Rouge.

My party is totally under the responsibility of Prince Norodom Ranariddh in his capacity as the representative of Samdech Euv Norodom Sihanouk.

My movement is a nationalist movement, one which wants our Cambodia to be a noncommunist, nationalist country as it was in the past era—a clearly neutral and nonaligned state, having no master, and not a slave to China, Vietnam, the Soviet Union, France, the United States, ASEAN, Thailand, or any other country. Our movement, that is Samdech Sihanouk's movement, wants to make friends with all countries that respect our Cambodia's independence and territorial integrity in a way that we have equal status with them, enjoy neutrality, are not a satellite or an ally to any country.

We are not an accomplice of the Khmer Rouge. The only thing we, the Sihanoukists, do is to fight against the Vietnamese enemies and their lackeys in order to liberate our motherland. And after the liberation, when there is a free election, it is up to the people who are the owners of the country and the power of the Cambodian state to decide whether they will let the Sihanoukist party—FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and ANS—or Messrs Hun Sen and Heng Samrin and his colleagues, or Messrs Son Sann and Sak Sutsakhan and their colleagues, or Messrs Son Sen and Khieu Samphan and the Khmer Rouge group win the election and take power on behalf of our people who are the owners of the country. Our only duty is to inform the people that if we win the election, we will bring genuine democracy to our nation and all rights and freedoms to our people. We will make our people enjoy the full rights and freedoms similar to what the people in France are enjoying.

All of this constitutes our political program and ideals that we would like to sincerely present to our people, without any deception.

At present, why have they sent youths who are on the side of Hun Sen and Heng Samrin to suffer, die, and shed their blood? It is in order to maintain Cambodia under the claws of Vietnamese colonialists and Soviet imperialists so that sooner or later our present Cambodia will be turned into a second Kampuchea Kraom and a second Champa; that is, to become a Vietnamese territory, losing its Cambodian race and its status as an independent and free Cambodia.

Major radio stations, such as England's BBC and France's radio, carried a report today, 11 January 1990, saying that Mr Hun Sen had just made a speech solemnly appealing to our Cambodian youths, male youths who can fight but have not yet volunteered, to join the Hun Sen army in the service of Vietnam. I am not sure whether Mr Hun Sen made this announcement today or yesterday. But today the BBC and the French radio reported that Mr Hun Sen made an appeal to youths who have not yet volunteered to serve the army, calling on them to serve the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen army in order to fight and die on his behalf in the fight against the tripartite resistance movement of the Cambodian patriots and fighters for national liberation.

He confessed clearly that in the fight against us, the fighters for national liberation, his Hun Sen army was defeated and suffered serious losses. Particularly, his army lost to the Khmer Rouge army, which is now very powerful. The Khmer Rouge army inflicted heavy losses on the Hun Sen army, killing uncountable numbers of the Hun Sen soldiers and seizing or destroying a large number of weapons. The Hun Sen army suffered immense losses. This was admitted by Hun Sen himself in his statement carried today, 11 January, by the British radio, the BBC. The BBC reported that Mr Hun Sen admitted that in the fight against the Khmer Rouge, particularly in the recent battle in Battambang Town, many Hun Sen soldiers were killed. The Khmer Rouge launched a massive offensive and won victory. Therefore, Mr Hun Sen appealed to all children who can handle a gun to volunteer to fight and die on his behalf. According to the BBC, he said that if the young men refused to fight, his state, his government, and his regime will certainly fall.

For this reason, I would like to inform all young men who have not yet served the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin army and the Vietnamese that the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin clique is going to force you to serve the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin army, which is a satellite of the Vietnamese. They will send you to fight against the Khmer Rouge in particular.

I would like to call on all children not to go to die in the fight for the Vietnamese colonialists, to turn our country into a Vietnamese satellite, into a Vietnamese territory as our second beloved Cambodia [as heard]. We have lost our second beloved Cambodia because it was already annexed by the Vietnamese. They are now trying to annex our present-day Cambodia. If you serve the Hun Sen clique, it would mean that you are helping the Vietnamese to annex our Cambodian territory.

Therefore, I would like to appeal to all Cambodian youths who are going to be recruited by the Hun Sen regime and sent to fight against the Khmer Rouge. Do not fight and die on behalf of the Vietnamese and the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin clique. The Hun Sen-Heng Samrin elements are waiting for a chance to desert you and flee from Phnom Penh and Cambodia to live in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi with their boss. Many of them are packing up the huge property that they have gathered from corruption and selling the nation to the Soviet Union and Vietnam and are ready to desert you and flee, like in 1974-75. In 1990, as in 1974-75, they have come to realize that they will certainly lose, thus they have prepared to flee. But before fleeing, they want to send all of you to fight and die on their behalf.

They have even confessed that if Cambodian youths do not fight for Hun Sen and the Hun Sen regime, this regime will collapse. This is what the BBC and the French radio reported today, 11 January 1990. The radios reported that Hun Sen has made this confession. Therefore, you must not let yourself be fooled by Hun Sen and the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin regime. Do not serve their army. But if they force you, you should just carry the guns and flee. Do not fight for them. Any of you children who have been serving as soldiers, if you have tanks and large and small weapons in your possession but want to help the nation, cleanse your bad reputation gained from serving the traitors, Vietnamese colonialists, and the Soviet imperialists, and become patriots and benefactors of our nation by taking part in the fight against the Vietnamese colonialists and their lackeys in order to liberate the nation. Flee to the side of the resistance forces, such as Samdech Sihanouk's army.

Mentioning Samdech Sihanouk's army does not mean that I want to gain any honor or want my army to gain more power or to become stronger than any other army. But since you are afraid that the Khmer Rouge might bully you and that the powerful Khmer Rouge might oppress the people as before, I want you to be sure that although the ANS does not fight against the Khmer Rouge, it can serve as a guarantee to prevent the Khmer Rouge from impairing the human rights, freedoms, and the peaceful life of the grandparents, uncles, aunts, relatives, and children in Cambodia, and from committing acts similar to Pol Pot's 1975-78 era.

At that time, the samdech euv's army did not exist to protect all of you children. Now, there is an army of the samdech euv. But since I have refused to serve as a slave to anyone, foreign countries do not help my army. My army is still very weak. All we have is mental strength, our patriotic spirit, which have enabled us to win greater victories in the fight for national liberation on the battlefield. In addition to the mental and physical strength, we do not have the firepower of the army of Mr Son San or the Khmer Rouge.

But if you are courageous enough to help the nation and fight for the liberation of our motherland, please bring your weapons and come to join Samdech Sihanouk's army. Why? First, it is in order to enable Samdech Sihanouk's army—which is the symbol of an independent Cambodia that is not a foreign slave—to become strong enough to fight effectively for the liberation of the country.

Second, it is so that after our nation is liberated, our army will be able to deal with and prevent the army of Mr Son Sann and that of the Khmer Rouge from bullying our Cambodian people, our innocent citizens. Particularly with regard to the Khmer Rouge, we will not fight against them. We cannot win in the fight against them, because they are very powerful and capable in fighting. They have more experience in fighting, and they are very brave. We must admit this. However, our army, our ANS, with more children from the Hun Sen-Heng Sam army defecting to our side might become strong enough to defend the people from being bullied by the Khmer Rouge.

In the past, since there was no Sihanoukist army to protect the people and there was only the Khmer Rouge army in the resistance movement, when the war was won and the country was liberated, only the Pol Pot army existed. Sihanouk then became Pol Pot's prisoner. The Pol Pot clique even killed many members of my family and the Sihanoukists who were not soldiers but only diplomats and officials, such as Mr Chea San, Prince Methavi, Prince Purissara, and their families.

It is different now, because we also have our army, the Sihanoukist army. Therefore, any of you children who are brave enough should desert Hun Sen and the Vietnamese and flee to join my army under Prince Ranariddh, who is your elder brother. He might be able to protect you and to serve the people in his capacity as representative of the samdech euv, who is now very old. I am now 68 years old. I am very old now and my health is not so good, so I do not know when I might die. Therefore, I cannot assure you how many more years I can take care of you. But as long as I am alive, I will take care of all of you to the best of my ability. I will dedicate all my strength to the motherland, to all grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, and children, and to monks and to Buddhism which is our national religion.

I would like once again to appeal to all of you young men that even if they force you to fight, you should not go. Do not die or suffer on behalf of the Vietnamese or Hun Sen, who has already been defeated and who is preparing to flee the country. You should flee to the side of the ANS so that you can fulfill your duty for the motherland, for our compatriots, and for the people, who are the owners of the country.

I am not the owner of the land and waters in Cambodia. I have already lost my kingdom and my throne. It is our people who are the owners of our land and waters. Therefore, you should make your decision according to your own common sense. However, you should not serve the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin clique, which is about to be defeated and about to flee the country. You should not serve the Vietnamese colonialists nor the Soviet imperialists and the communists. We should serve only Buddhism, our national religion, and the religions through which the Cambodians worship—Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, as you like. We are the nationalists. We are not communists. We are neutralists, and we cherish full independence.

Thank you all very much. I would like to end my message here.

May all of you children in the Cambodian state enjoy longevity, success, good health, powerful strength, and wisdom.

Long live independent, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia!

Situation Along Route 10 in Battambang Updated

BK2301014190 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] 1. On 13 and 14 January a regiment of Vietnamese enemy troops left Snoeng and Boeng Ampil for Baribo Village along Route 10 [in Battambang Province]. They were ambushed and intercepted at many places by our national resistance forces. We killed 28 Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the spot and wounded 46 others and seized a 60-mm mortar, 6 B-40's and B-41's, and 6 AK's.

2. On 18 January two regiments of Vietnamese enemy troops left Sdau and Boeng Ampil in an attempt to attack us on both sides of Route 10. They were ambushed by our national resistance forces which were constantly after the enemy. We killed 31 Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the spot, including 3 regiment commanders and 3 battalion commanders, and wounded 20 others.

In sum, during these two battles, we killed or wounded 125 Vietnamese enemy troops.

Attack on Varin District Seat Detailed

BK2301013990 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] On 17 January our national resistance forces attacked and completely liberated Varin District seat [Siem Reap Province].

As a result, we killed 29 Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the spot and wounded many others and destroyed over 100 military shelters. We seized 89 assorted weapons, a paddy mill, and a quantity of other war materiel. We also seized 200 sacks of paddy, 200 logs, and 24 wooden columns which have been plundered by the Vietnamese enemy and their puppets and lackeys from our people. We returned all this to our people who were vary touched and happy. We liberated three communes, Varin, Prasat, and Svay Sar, and 23 villages—19 villages in the above 3 communes, namely Santis, Kouk Phnum, Antung, Rumduol, Neal, Vea, Kanhchan, Run, Tumneap Svay, Kat Dai, Prasat, Vien, O, Cha Svay Sar, Russei Toch, Kouk Phneou, Kambao, Kouk Thmei, and Don Tong, and 4 more villages in Sre Khvav Commune in Srei Snam District, namely Rundas, Rumlum, Toek Thla, and Reach Chontul. We completely dismantled and dispersed village and commune state authorities of the Vietnamese enemy in Varin District involving 400 people, including 200 who asked to return home and live as ordinary people.

Khmer Rouge Claim to Varin Contradicted

BK2001042090 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Jan 90 p 4

[Text] The Khmer Rouge and their reluctant ally, Prince Norodom Sihanouk's non-communist resistance faction, have made contradicting claims over a reported capture of a northwestern district seat in Cambodia.

In separate reports, the resistance groups said they "liberated" Varin district seat in Siem Reap province on Wednesday.

"Two ANS (Sihanoukian National Army) battalions from the 3rd and 6th Brigades have entirely liberated the district seat of Varin which is situated on the departmental road 632 and 40 kms north of the world known complexes of Ankor Wat temple, in Siem Reap province," Sihanouk's Bangkok office said in a press release on Thursday.

The release said ANS forces had also overrun eight villages belonging to Varin and seized a large amount of arms and ammunition.

"The liberation of Varin and the villages around clears out a direct access to the capital city of Siem Reap," it said.

The Khmer Rouge, meanwhile, said on its clandestine radio yesterday the communist guerrillas had attacked and "totally liberated" Varin.

The radio claimed that one day earlier, the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge "liberated" three communes and 13 villages in the district, destroying five army barracks and commune offices and killing nine government troops.

It added that villages around the town had also been captured.

Neither of the claims could be independently confirmed.

A woman official at Sihanouk's Bangkok office told THE NATION yesterday the Khmer Rouge were not involved in the seizure of Varin.

Prince Sihanouk's faction is grouped in an uneasy alliance with the Marxist Khmer Rouge and the non-communist followers of former prime minister Son Sann against the Vietnam-installed government in Phnom Penh.

More on Situation Along Route 5, Railway Line

BK2301004890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] After successively cutting major, medium, and small bridges on the railway line and Route 5, on 18 January our national resistance forces attacked and cut off a 150-meter segment of Route 5 with obstacles and mines between Kakaoh Commune and Stoeng Chak. The next morning, three Vietnamese soldiers were killed and a number of others wounded by our mines when they came to inspect the road. On 19 January our national resistance forces attacked and cut another 1,000-meter stretch of Route 5 with 122 holes between Thnal Bat and Prey Svay.

These two attacks against Route 5, on top of successive previous attacks against major, medium, and small bridges, have nearly choked all transport activities of the Vietnamese enemy along Route 5—the most important strategic channel of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets for providing ammunition, supplies, troops, and all kinds of materiel—to Battambang and the entire battlefield in western Cambodia. Rail transport between Pursat and Battambang has been completely cut off for over 2 months now. This has greatly panicked the Vietnamese enemy and puppets in Battambang and the battlefield in western Cambodia who have gathered troops from everywhere to defend these two strategic lines but failed. Both the railway line and Route 5 have been successively cut at many places by our national resistance forces between Svay Don Kev in Pursat Province and Reang Kesei and O Sralau south of Battambang town.

Resistance Forces Launch Offensive on Sisophon

BK2301013990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Jan 90 pp 1, 2

[By Kokhet Chanthaloetlak]

[Text] Phnum Malai, Cambodia—The three Cambodian resistance forces have launched a multi-pronged attack on the outskirts of Sisophon;, the capital of strategic Banteay Meanchey province, a Khmer Rouge commander said yesterday.

Speaking at the Khmer Rouge stronghold on Phnum Malai, about five kms from the Thai border opposite Aranyaprathet district, the commander said that a Khmer Rouge force launched the offensive on Jan 17 by advancing to the outskirts of the district town.

"We have attacked a string of villages close to the town, including O Krachak, Dong Aran Kop and Samraong villages," said the officer who asked not to be identified.

The attack on Sisophon is one of the resistance guerrillas' biggest military operations against the Phnom Penh forces. A fall of the district town would be a big blow to the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin regime.

The commander said he learned that other Cambodian resistance factions closed in on Sisophon from other directions shortly after the Khmer Rouge mounted the offensive.

"I don't know much about the activities by other resistance groups but on our part, we have avoided using artillery or motar fire for fear of harming villagers who were used by government troops as a shield against our attacks" he said.

He said that the government troops took up positions inside villages on the outskirts of Sisophon.

The officer claimed that villagers in the area have been extremely cooperative with the Khmer Rouge fighters.

"They have been providing us with tip-offs and helping guiding our way in our offensive against Sisophon," he said.

The officer said that other Khmer Rouge forces were also tightening their noose on Battambang province, southeast of Sisophon.

"I understand that our faction has overrun nine villages around Battambang and is keeping up military pressure on the provincial town," he said.

He said that Khemr Rouge forces have strictly followed the policy of avoiding recruiting villagers in the newly-occupied areas lest it could be accused by the international community of mongering a war.

The Khmer Rouge has also set up an administrative network in villages under its occupation, he said.

"Our image has improved quite a lot among the Cambodian villagers because of the correct policy guidelines of our command," the officer said.

Khmer Rouge Said Preparing 'Permanent Center'

BK2301020590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Jan 90 p 1

[Text] Aranyaprathet—Khmer Rouge soldiers are clearing mines from their former stronghold of Phnum Malai, after retaking it from Heng Samrin soldiers, and are preparing to set up a permanent centre there.

Phnum Malai is a mountainous position which was considered a most important strategic point by both the Khmer Rouge and Government soldiers. It is about three kilometres from Ban Nong Pru on the Thai border, about 25 kilometres south of Aranyaprathet.

The Khmer Rouge lost this position to Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin soldiers on February 14, 1984, and retook it last November 15.

A group of reporters who visited Phnum Malai base yesterday observed Khmer Rouge soldiers clearing mines, believed to be many thousands, to build offices in the "liberated zone" and living quarters for officials, soldiers and the people.

The Khmer Rouge hopes to move its people from the Thai border to Phnum Mali during the next rainy season after the mines are removed.

Construction of shelters is not without problems, as the Khmer Rouge has plenty of wood, but needs other building materials.

There are about 2,000 civilians at Phnum Malai, mostly family members of Khmer Rouge soldiers.

Reporters heard mines exploding regularly throughout their visit.

A Khmer Rouge officer of the 450th Division, claimed that on January 16 a combined force of 320th and 450th Divisions took nine more communes in the area of Sangke River near Battambang.

The officer, who requested anonymity, claimed that since last November the Khmer Rouge had taken 53 areas.

On January 17, part of the combined force launched attacks against Ban O Krachak and Ban Kamnat in the proximity of Sisophon near Toek Thala Canal.

Asked about the Khmer Rouge's present policy, the officer said it has adopted a policy of "3 don'ts and 3 do's."

Under the "three don'ts" Khmer Rouge soldiers must not recruit the people into military service unless they volunteer to do so, must not implement the K-5 plan which originally was intended to restrict the people from travelling in liberated zones, and must not sell war weapons and other military supplies.

The three do's are for Khmer Rouge soldiers to set up village corps to conduct psychological warfare, to set up a village administrative committee in every liberated village and to set up civilian volunteer units.

Asked to comment on a proposal by 90 Thai MPs for the Thai Government to stop supporting the three Khmer factions fighting Phnom Penh, many Khmer Rouge officers said if the Thai Government agreed to the proposal the Khmer Rouge would be in a difficult position.

'Liberated Zones' Face Poverty as New Adversary

BK2101055690 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jan 90 p 2

[By Anurat Maniphan]

[Text] Thmar Puok—Resistance forces "liberating" Cambodia are facing a problem that has plagued their adversaries in Phnom Penh for years—poverty.

Just as Phnom Penh and other parts of the country held by the Hun Sen Government cry out for international aid, life is a struggle for people living in "liberated" zones held by the resistance.

Thmar Puok, taken by former premier Son Sann's Khmer People's National Liberation and Prince Norodom Sihanouk Sihanoukist National Army (ANS), was the first to appeal for outside aid.

"We need US aid," read a banner held by some of the 2,000 demonstrators who turned out for a visit by a dozen newsmen.

In speeches, demonstrators appealed to US President George Bush to provide economic aid to rebuild Thmar Puok and strengthen the non-communist resistance.

The "sub-province", with a population of 53,160, has a surplus of rice now being harvested, officials note.

But the arid, dusty region adjoining Thailand's Buri Ram Province seems to have few other assets. Officials say it is in dire need of salt, and water sources are hard to find.

Help has come from Sihanouk and a fund headed by US Congressman Stephen Solarz.

Sihanouk has provided blankets, clothes and cooking pots, while the Solarz Fund has bought rice, salt, kerosene, MSG and cloth.

Gen Kruoch Yoeum, commander of the Third Region of the ANS, and governor of the sub-province, said assistance in the past two months has included 200 sacks of rice and 30 tons of salt.

Though "liberated" in a joint operation, the Sihanoukists have taken over administration of Thmar Puok, claiming to hold altogether 395 square kilometres of this northwestern part of Cambodia.

According to ANS Third Region Chief-of-Staff Hang Yuth, Thmar Puok was taken on September 30 with a combined force of 450 ANS and 150 KPNLF soldiers. In the fighting, 15 "enemy" troops were killed and 368 captured.

Twelve Khmer Rouge guerrillas of the 519th division in Thmar Puok area helped cut supply lines, their commander Prak Saren told reporters.

But a main element in the victory, according to ANS officiers, was the co-operation of Phnom Penh troops stationed in Thmar Puok, who had been in contact with Gen Kruoch Yoeum.

Over one hundred troops had defected from Phnom Penh's 15th Battalion and have joined 708 Battalion of the ANS.

Thmar Puok is defended by about 2,300 ANS soldiers, Gen Kruoch Yoeum said, and 300 new recruits who completed training on Friday have joined the 7th Brigade.

Though there is no curfew, the town is well-guarded at night when women are busy cooking meals over wood fires or preparing food to sell at market, which opens at 5 a.m. and is packed with shoppers within two hours.

The people's only contact with the outside world is the Voice of Khmer Radio, whose music and news programmes are heard over a communal receiver and broadcasts till late at night.

Villagers raise pigs and poultry for food underneath their wooden houses, as in rural Thailand.

Though malaria is a problem in the sub-province, the town of Thmar Puok, on the night journalists were there, was pleasantly free of mosquitoes in what an official said was the result of spraying.

A doctor at a new hospital said malaria, injuries from landmines and rockets are the biggest problems.

Ly Vanthang, director of the ANS hospital opened a month ago, said he had treated 80 patients wounded by artillery shells last week in Sisophon, Koke, Mone and Phnom Sroc.

Teachers are almost as scarce as doctors. At one of the sub-province's 40 schools, there were 27 teachers for 990 pupils, who are learning in shifts of two hours each.

The 50 officials running Thmar Puok were training at the Sihanoukist Site B camp, where conditions are similar, but international aid makes a big difference.

Indonesia

Alatas Discusses Preparations for Cambodia Talks

BK2201152690 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas says Indonesia is preparing for an informal meeting on Cambodia to be held by the end of February. Accordingly, he is exploring the readiness of all sides involved to attend. Speaking to newsmen at Kuta, Bali, this afternoon, Minister Ali Alatas said that there had been signs of hope for settlement of the Cambodian issue. These included trends toward an easing of international tension, particularly due to rapprochement between the two superpowers.

Suharto Hosts Banquet for Visiting Soviet

BK2101084890 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Excerpts] Mirzaolin Ibragimov, Soviet vice president [of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization] and concurrently chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of Uzbekistan, and his entourage visited the Indonesian Miniature Park in Jakarta this morning. [passage omitted]

At the State Palace last night, Ibragimov and his delegation attended a banquet hosted by the president and Mrs Suharto. The banquet was also attended by the vice president and Mrs Sudharmono. Earlier, the Uzbekistan visitors paid a courtesy call on the vice president and Mrs Sudharmono at Jakarta's Merdeka Palace.

Saudi Oil Minister Nazir Arrives for Visit

BK1901124390 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1153 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 19 (OANA/ANTARA)—Saudi Arabian Oil and Natural Resources Minister Hisham M. Nazir believed that the fostering of solidarity within the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is not to be based on the oil reserves of each member countries.

"We cannot change them (the volume of crude reserves), because they have been bestowed upon us by God," Hisham Nazir told the press upon arrival at the Halim Perdanakusumah Airport here Thursday [18 January].

Hisham Nazir, in the company of his family, which includes his wife, Dr Amira H. Badawi, and some other oil officials, are in Indonesia for four days during which he also planned to visit the Puncak tourist resort, some 90 km south of here, Yogyakarta, the Borobudur Buddhist Temple and Bali. However, Hisham Nazir's main program while in this country is to have talks with President Suharto here Saturday.

Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita said minister Hisham came here without a certain agenda, and the talks he will have with Indonesian authorities will be based on the spirit of brotherhood.

The meetings will discuss matters which may contribute to the establishment of a cooperation between the two sides, Minister Ginanjar, flanked by Pertamina [state-owned oil company] chief F. Abda'oe, said. The topics may include a planned cooperation in oil refining, which had already been discussed by the two sides some time ago. The Saudi Arabian oil official is scheduled to leave Indonesia from Bali Monday morning.

Meets With Suharto

BK2001132290 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Excerpt] President Suharto this morning received a courtesy call from Hisham Nazir, Saudi Arabian minister of oil and mineral resources, who was accompanied by Mining and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita. The meeting, which lasted about 30 minutes, discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in the oil industry and trade.

Speaking to newsmen later, Minister Ginanjar said the president had briefed the Saudi minister on development programs in the country aimed at raising the people's living standard. He also stressed the important role of oil revenues for carrying out development projects. [passage omitted]

Laos

Refugee Repatriation From Thailand Discussed

BK2001104490 Vientiane KPL in English 0951 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 20 (KPL)—Laos welcomes the repatriation of Lao refugees living in Thailand, but it must be executed in conformity with the voluntary repatriation program of the UNHCR [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees], said Mr Mali-gna Sai-gnavong, chief of the Department of International Organisation of the Lao Foreign Ministry in his interview given yesterday to the Lao national radio.

Asked to comment on a statement of Thai officials that imposes the forced repatriation on Lao refugees of Ban Winai camp (THE NATION newspaper of 3/1/1990), Mr Mali-gna indicated that all repatriation should be realised in a planned manner under the UNHCR auspices. In case of extreme necessity, the Lao Government will resort to a measure of pushing back all these refugees. He went on saying that the UNHCR program process of voluntary repatriation has started in 1982. By late 1989, 5357 refugees were repatriated within this program framework. Of them, 5,101 are volunteers and 256 considered by the Thai authority as illegal immigrants also benefited from this program.

On the other hand, Mr Mali-gna revealed that in 1989 alone, 1,910 people got to the United States, Australia, France, Switzerland, Japan, and India.

With regard to the threat by the Thai authority to expel by force the 5,000 Lao refugees, he added that it was not for the first time the Thai authority used such a forced measure because since April 1989, we had registered more than 3,000 cases of forced repatriation in such provinces as Champassak, Savannakhet, and Khammouane. Such a case also happened in Vientiane Province. Faced with this problem, Mr Mali-gna said that if the Thai authority really acted with sincerity and goodwill, they would have not taken this move as we have reached agreements with them at various tripartite meetings attended by the governmental representatives of Laos, Thailand and the UNHCR.

The Lao Government initially has taken upon itself to accept, since May 1989, 150 people a month. This figure reached 300 people a month after the 2nd tripartite meeting of last August. Therefore, we kept our door open in order to seek for a solution to the refugee problem, but we would not consider any case of forced repatriation that involves many problems. Facing the current situation, Laos is not in the position and has no means to accept mass repatriation and to feed them. That is why we request aid and support from the UNHCR and insisted that the problem should be solved under its auspices. Apart from material difficulties, there is the question of national security as 5,000 people represented several regiments and nobody knows whether there are no bad elements mixing with these people.

Thai Trade Relations Face Expansion, Obstruction

BK2201133390 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 22 Jan 90

[PASASON feature: "Trade Relations and Cooperation Situation Between Laos and Thailand"—dated 22 January]

[Text] In the recent past, in particular since the signing of the joint statement of 25 November 1988 between the Governments of Laos and Thailand, bilateral trade and cooperation have entered a new stage. The joint statement notes: Heads of the two governments unanimously agreed that the current world situation is changing from confrontation to consultation and compromise in the settlement of international conflicts through political means, for development and peaceful coexistence. For this reason this visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] by [Thai prime minister] His Excellency General Chatchai Chunhawan and party constitutes a new, important turning point in bilateral relations. It has emphasized national development and promotion of the well-being of the peoples of the two countries by establishing mutual cooperation, both in the governmental and private sectors, through economic and trade exchanges and the exchanges of visits at various levels on the basis of the spirit of mutual understanding and trust, mutual assistance in a brotherly manner, equality, and common interests.

Implementing the contents and spirit of the Lao-Thai joint statement, together with the pursuance of the policy of broadening cooperation with foreign countries and the law dated 25 July 1988 on foreign investment in the LPDR, the already existing Lao-Thai relations and cooperation have quickly developed. More than 300 Thai companies were engaged in trade with Laos in mid-1988, and now many more Thai companies have businesses in Laos.

In the past, trading between the two countries, in particular along the border areas, emphasis was put only on the import and export of rice. But now relations and cooperation between the two countries have further expanded. This has been clearly seen through the expansion of business in various provinces and in Vientiane municipalities. For example, the construction and livestock breeding company, the (Taksin) Company Limited, the Thai (Chintaphon) textile factory, the Joint Development Bank, the representation office of the Thai Military Bank, the agricultural promotion company, the timber production company, and many other Thai companies have been established in the LPDR.

Along with the expansion of trade between the two countries, the relations and cooperation in the fields of culture, arts, literature, and other technologies have also been effectively carried out. In particular, the peoples of the two countries along both sides of the Mekong River have regularly exchanged visits. It is noteworthy that whenever an adverse incident took place, the two peoples would join in settling it through peaceful means. For example, they helped each other suppress smuggling and arrest robbers. In cases in which there were domestic animals crossing the Mekong River, they would return them to their owners.

The two peoples of Laos and Thailand are proud of various practices in the past. However, they are unhappy and concerned about certain incidents that have been created by a number of ill-intentioned elements in Thailand. For example, those bad elements have engaged in smuggling goods along the border areas; contacted the imperialists and other reactionaries to gain support and assistance—in forms of weapons and money—for exiled Lao reactionaries to enable them to return to carrying out activities aimed at creating disturbances along the Lao-Thai border and obstructing and sabotaging the labor movements in production bases; and intercepted buses traveling along inter-provincial roads, thus causing loss of lives and property.

Though these acts have been defeated and exposed on many occasions, the bad elements in Thailand have not yet abandoned their same old schemes. Moreover, sometimes they have even put the blame on the Lao Government and slandered the revolutionary administration of the LPDR. Their dirty acts cannot fool anyone. For example, recently the Supreme People's Court of the LPDR passed judgments suitably punishing 38 exiled Vietnamese reactionaries. These Vietnamese infiltrated Laos from Thailand with the hope of subverting and sabotaging the revolution of the three Indochinese countries—Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia. But they were captured by the Lao militia-guerrillas in southern Saravane Province.

The adverse acts of the bad elements with the instigation and support of the imperialists have resulted in sabotaging the interests, creating unrest, and disrupting the peaceful life of the Lao and Thai peoples residing along the border areas. They have also spoiled the spirit of fraternal friendship between the peoples of Laos and Thailand. Moreover, such acts have constituted an obstruction to the implementation of the Lao-Thai joint statement of 25 November 1988.

SRV Awards Presented to Army Units, Civilians

BK2101154590 Hanoi VNA in English 1513 GMT 21 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 21—Empowered by the Vietnamese State Council, Vietnamese Ambassador to Laos Nguyen Xuan presented in Vientiane yesterday 88 Military and Exploit Orders to army units and men and civilians of Laos who captured or killed a group of exiled Vietnamese reactionaries attempting to infiltrate into Vietnam via Laos.

The group, headed by Tran Quang Do, an officer of the Saigon Army, was intercepted by Lao forces who took prisoner 38, tried them at the Lao Supreme Court and later extradited them to Vietnam.

Ambassador Nguyen Xuan also presented 33 certificates of merit awarded by the Vietnamese Ministry of Defence to various units and individuals.

Among those present on this occasion was Choummali Sai-gnason, alternate Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) Central Committee and first vice minister of defence.

Speaking at the award ceremony, Ambassador Nguyen Xuan said that this was not the first time the Lao Army and people helped Vietnam foil an infiltration attempt by Vietnamese reactionaries. Earlier, two other groups of exiled Vietnamese commanded by Hoang Co Minh, the boss of Tran Quang Do, had been neutralized by Lao troops and Hoang Co Minh was killed in action.

"This is a new manifestation of the noble tradition of close solidarity and mutual support and assistance between the two armies and peoples, of the unbreakable friendship and all-round cooperation between the two parties, states, armies and peoples of Vietnam and Laos," Nguyen Xuan emphasized.

Deputy Minister Meets USSR, SRV Military Attaches

BK2301113090 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 23 (KPL)—Lieutenant General Osakan Thammatheva, member of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee], deputy minister of national defence, head of the General Political Department of the Lao People's Army [LPA] and some other officers received here on January 20 Tran Cong Ham and Timchouk [name as received], respectively Vietnamese and Soviet military attaches to the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], on the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the LPA.

The guests wished the Lao People's Army greater success in its development and in the national defence.

On this occasion, Lieut. Gen. Osakan Thammatheva, on behalf of the government, army and people of the Lao PDR expressed thanks and deep gratitude for the effective help and support of the parties, governments, armies and peoples of Vietnam and the Soviet Union to the Lao PDR in the struggle for national liberation in the past and in national construction and defence at present. He also wished for further strengthening the solidarity and all-round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam and between Laos and the Soviet Union.

Cultural Cooperation Protocol Signed With USSR

BK2301122390 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 23 (KPL)—A protocol on cultural cooperation for a five-year period and for 1990-91 was signed here on Jan. 22 between the Lao-Soviet Friendship Association and the Soviet Association for Friendship and Cultural Cooperation With Nations.

The signatories to the protocol were Bouathong, minister of communication, transport, post and construction, president of the Lao-Soviet Friendship Association and Masline, vice-president of the Soviet Peace Committee, first vice-president of the Soviet Fund for Peace and president of the Soviet-Lao Friendship Association.

Present at the signing ceremony were Mrs Khamsouk Vongvichit, and Mr Thongsavat Yamani, vice-presidents of the Lao-Soviet Friendship Association.

Yuriy Mikheyev, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union to Laos was also on hand.

PSA President Receives Outgoing French Envoy

BK2301121590 Vientiane KPL in English 0858 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 23 (KPL)—The president of the People's Supreme Assembly [PSA] Nouhak Phoumsavan yesterday evening received a farewell visit by French Ambassador to Laos Marc Menguy upon the completion of his diplomatic mission here.

The PSA president, on the occasion, expressed thanks and congratulations to the ambassador over his active contribution to the promotion and development of the relations between Laos and France in the common interest of the two countries' peoples.

Philippines

U.S. Officials Meet Separately With Aquino

HK2001022790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0200 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Two U.S. officials met separately with President Corazon Aquino yesterday. They included Robert Gates, deputy national security adviser to President Bush, and Congressman Jim Kolbe of Arizona. Both men also denied having suggested to President Aquino the holding of snap presidential elections.

Gates also met with Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and assured him that he will do everything he can to speed up delivery of military equipment to the Philippines under the terms of the U.S. bases agreement.

Meanwhile, Congressman Kolbe told newsmen that the expansion programs at Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base have been postponed pending a decision on the future of U.S. bases in the country.

Column Views Visit

HK2201102590 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 Jan 90 p 6

[From column by Jesus Bigornia: "Opposition Smells a Rat in U.S. Visits"]

[Text] Filipinos have cause to be wary when top-drawer Washington officials start arriving in Manila with assurances of total support for the Aquino regime from the "Great White Father" in the White House. For memory is still fresh on how then President Reagan dispatched a veritable relay of leaders of Congress, even his personal trouble-shooter, Ambassador Philip Habib, to assure the ailing President Marcos of Washington's support for his tottering regime. At the last moment, Marcos was told curtly, "to cut and cut clean."

History appears to be repeating itself. Leading the parade of distinguished Americans, former Secretary of State George Shultz conferred with President Aquino twice late last year triggering speculation on a possible "snap" election this quarter. With a minimum of fanfare, Robert Gates, senior presidential security adviser, comes into the country via Clark Air Force base, meets only with the President, and exits the way he arrived almost immediately. In Washington, President Bush's spokesman, Marlin Fitzwater, says Gates merely delivered a White House letter to President Aquino.

It is now reported that a ranking member of the committee on appropriations of the U.S. House of Representatives is in town, presumably to sound out public opinion on the viability of the Aquino regime that has been wracked by repeated failed coups d'etat. On deck is the U.S. secretary of defense who is expected sometime next month. That he would check on the fate of American military bases here is not far-fetched. Indeed, the procession of top ranking U.S. officials is beginning to lengthen suspiciously.

Envoy to U.S. Says Aid To Drop by $90 Million

HK2201102990 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 21 Jan 90 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Gerry Zaragoza]

[Text] Ambassador to the United States Emmanuel Pelaez said he had been informed by sources in Washington that the Philippines this year might get $90 million less than the $481 million the U.S. had committed in exchange for the use of the bases here.

He said the amount of aid cut was almost 19% of the $481 million President BUsh had requested the U.S. Congress to extend as assistance to the Philippines under the 1988 agreement signed by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus and then secretary of state George Bush.

Pelaez said the aid cut combined with Sen. Robert Dole's proposal to trim by 5% the assistance to five countries, including the Philippines, so the money saved could be diverted to Eastern Europe and Panama, could hurt Philippine economic recovery efforts.

The Philippine ambassador expressed his sentiment in a letter, dated Jan. 19, to the 'New York Times' in which he expressed support to Dole's view that U.S. Congress should have less say in allocating foreign assistance funds, which should instead be left in the hands of the Executive branch.

Pelaez said that while the issue involved American policy, the views of recipient countries like the Philippines "might be helpful" in the consideration of Dole's proposal.

He pointed out that the estimated $90 million aid cut for the Philippines arose from U.S. Congress' move to earmark more than 70% of the money it had appropriated the foreign assistance.

This left President Bush "with so little money" to apportion to fulfill his commitment, according to Ambassador Pelaez.

The Memorandum of Understanding signed by Manglapus and Shultz in October 1988 is considered an executive agreement committing the U.S. president to exert his "best efforts" to get U.S. Congress to appropriate a total of $962 million in various forms of assistance to the Philippines in the last two years of the 1947 Military Bases Agreement.

Pelaez said the estimated 19% cut in the 1990 commitment would make the Philippines "the biggest victim of earmarking for this year."

"To further subject our country to the 5% across-the-board cut proposed by Senator Dole would be to prejudice the Philippines twice over," he said.

Pelaez's sentiment was expressed amid denunciation in the Senate by Majority Floor Leader Teofisto Guingona that the U.S. had been "shortchanging" the country by its failure to fulfill its commitments.

Citing figures from the U.S. budget and the finance department here, Guingona pointed that while the U.S. government had committed $1.8 billion from 1980 to 1989, it was able to deliver only $1.1 billion.

Guingona added that "from all indications, the amounts (of commitment) for 1990 will no longer be given."

Pelaez said the proposed cuts for 1990, coming at a time of economic and political adversity in the country, "would severely set back our efforts at national recovery."

"And with security problems from both communist and Rightist elements eating away at our resources, there is little left for the very elemental needs pf our less privileged countrymen," the ambassador said in his letter to the 'NEW YORK TIMES'.

He added that the debt service burden cost the Government $3.1 billion a year for interest alone, from 1986 to 1989, while total assistance amounted to only $2 billion.

This means a net foreign exchange outflow of $4.4 billion in the past four years, of which a large portion went to American creditor banks.

Pelaez pleaded that the U.S. should "once more reaffirm her support and friendship for the Philippines by giving due regard to these trying circumstances in which she finds herself."

In supporting Dole's proposal to allow the U.S. executive branch to apportion foreign assistance funds, Pelaez said it would lead to "a consistency in policy."

He explained that bilateral agreements, under the proposal, could not anymore be altered by congressional priorities that sometimes conflict with those of the Executive branch.

"As it is, countries without influential supporters in (U.S.) Congress are vulnerable to unilateral reductions, in spite of formal commitments by the president and the Executive branch," the ambassador said.

Manglapus Expresses Hope on U.S. Commitments

HK1701094790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Report by Vic Pambuan from Malacanang Palace]

[Text] The government is still hoping that the United States will fullfill its financial commitments to the Philippines based on an agreement signed between the two countries in 1988, the so-called Shultz-Manglapus agreement. This was learned from Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus after a cabinet meeting in Malacanang. In an interview with Malacanang reporters, Manglapus said the issue will be on the agenda for discussion by the U.S. Bases Committee during its meeting in Manila next week. Here is Secretary Manglapus:

[Begin recording in English] Just now, we are assessing the changing situation and the impact that it will have on the negotiations, the exploratory talks that we hope to undertake with the Americans in the next couple of months. [end recording]

Manglapus was asked about the Soviet Union's removal of its military bases from the Asian-Pacific region without prior agreement from the host countries, a move designed only to comply with an agreement with the United States for the reductiion of military forces. He replied that the Philippines case is different. He said that the issue has to be studied thoroughly and the people's views on the matter have to be considered.

Libya Asks for Support Against U.S. Sanctions

HK2201095390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 22 Jan 90

[By Rey Arquiza of Mobile Unit 21 from the Philippine International Convention Center]

[Text] Libya has asked the Philippines to condemn the economic sanctions imposed on the country by the United States, adding that the sanctions will adversely affect the ongoing peace talks in the Middle East.

In his meeting with Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, Libyan Ambassador to the Philippines Salem Adem said that U.S. sanctions have had a damaging effect on the Libyan economy, notably the freezing of Libyan assets in U.S. banks.

Ambassador Adem also described the accusation that Libya is engaged in terrorism as groundless. He reported Manglapus as saying that the Philippines opposes economic sanctions imposed on Libya. Furthermore, he said diplomatic relations between Libya and the Philippines are very good at the moment, as evidenced by the 30,700 Filipinos working in Libya as medical workers and construction workers.

Manglapus Assures Libyan Envoy

HK2301034190 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] The Philippines will not support the United States' move to impose economic sanctions against Libya. Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus gave this assurance after Libyan Ambassador Salem Adem phoned him. Adem is asking the Philippine Government to condemn the U.S. action against his country. Manglapus said there is no reason for the government to support the United States' move because Libya has no economic ties with the Philippines. He further said that the bilateral relationship between Libya and the Philippines is good.

China Objects to Upgrading of Ties With Taiwan

HK2201104390 Quezon City MALAYA in English 19 Jan 90 p 3

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] Chinese Ambassador Wang Ying Fan urged yesterday the Philippines not to follow the United States which has passed a Taiwan Relations Act which the People's Republic of China [PROC] considers objectionable.

Wang told the Rotary Club of Manila: "It is not our hope that, as China's friendly neighbor, the Philippines should become the second country that enacts such a bill.

Wang said his government and people "will never allow the Taiwan authorities' scheme to create 'two Chinas' or 'one China, one Taiwan' to succeed."

Two bills seeking to upgrade the status of Taiwan, which recently changed the name of its office in Manila from Pacific Economic and Cultural Center to Taiwan Economic Exchange Center, are pending in Congress.

Wang said the fundamental policy of the PROC on Taiwan is "peaceful reunification of the motherland and one country, two systems."

"The motherland shall not swallow Taiwan or vice versa," Wang said.

"After China is reunified, Taiwan can enjoy a high degree of autonomy as a special administrative region and can keep its own armed forces," he said.

Aquino Answers Questions at News Conference

HK2201114590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 22 Jan 90

[News conference by President Corazon C. Aquino at Malacanang Palace; live or recorded in English—broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Aquino] ...During the past 2 weeks, I have been meeting with junior officers of our Armed Forces and holding dialogues with them. Following a practice established 2 years ago, PMA [Philippine Military Academy] cadets and university students held a very fruitful interaction in Metro Manila for 2 days. Next month, the Metro Manila students, in turn, will visit Baguio and continue the interaction. I call on our people to reach out to our men and women in uniform and for the military likewise to reach out to their civilian brothers and sisters. This will foster better understanding and goodwill, reduce prejudice and misconceptions, and go a long way in strengthening the foundations of our nation.

Thank you. Now you can start.

[Zulueta] I am Lito Zulueta from THE MANILA CHRONICLE. First of all, ma'am, advanced Happy Birthday.

[Aquino] Thank you.

[Zulueta] Ambassador Pelaez informed you that there could be a 19 percent cut or a $90 million cut in the $481 million due to the Philippines under the Manglapus-Shultz accord. If this were so, then would you say that prospects for a new bases treaty or even a negotiation preparatory to a treaty would have been diminished?

[Aquino] Well, first of all, after Ambassador Pelaez sent this message to me and also Secretary Manglapus had informed me about Senator Dole's article in the...I think it was THE WASHINGTON POST or THE NEW YORK TIMES, I asked Congressman Kolbe who visited us last week about this particular matter, and he was telling me that was Senator Dole's personal recommendations. It was not the policy of the administration. And in fact, as soon as he returns to Washington, he will impress upon Congress the necessity to fulfill their commitment to us with regard to the Manglapus-Shultz agreement. So, I am hopeful that Congress and President Bush in particular will see to it that they fulfill their commitment.

[Reporter] In your Ask the President program yesterday, [words indistinct] when you discussed the coconut levy mess, the charges against Senator Enrile, Representative Lobregat and your cousin Eduardo Cojuangco. Now, are you impatient about the progress of the case? Do you feel the prosecutor should pursue the case more vigorously? What about the status of the other ill-gotten wealth cases filed by the PCGG [Presidential Commission on Good Governments] in the Sandiganbayan [antigraft court]?

[Aquino] Well, in fact I have talked to Solicitor General Frank Chavez about this and I have impressed upon him the necessity of speeding up all of these cases. And he has assured me that he is really devoting most of his time to the prosecution of these cases and he assured me that he will do everything he can so that our people will know that government is doing something about these particular cases.

[Cruz] Ma'am, I am Tessie Cruz from THE JOURNAL. When he was installed, acting Cagayan Governor Melvin Vargas called for the replacement of military troops in the region. Ma'am, in view of this development, will you direct Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa to effect a revamp in that region?

[Aquino] I will still have to talk to Secretary Luis Santos so that he himself can tell me what his recommendations will be. As you know, he was in Cagayan and he stayed there overnight so that he himself could help in the installation of Melvin Vargas. At any rate, once I have talked with Secretary Santos, then I will take up this matter with General de Villa so that we can plan out what will be best for Cagayan Province.

[Cruz] On another topic, you said last week that Secretary Bacani will give you a comprehensive report regarding the dry spell in Iloilo. Did you receive this report already?

[Aquino] This afternoon, I will be meeting with the people who are involved here. But before I even meet with them... [changes thought] because Secretary Concepcion has already recommended to me, together with Secretary Bacani, the issuance of another memorandum order with regard to the price of rice throughout the country. The original memorandum order that I had signed this month was only for Metro Manila, but in view of the fact that the drought has cost a reduction in the rice harvests, what we are doing now...I have just signed this memorandum order—it will become effective 2 days after its publication in the newspapers—the price for rice will now become nationwide, not just in Metro Manila, because from the reports given to me by both Secretary Bacani and Secretary Concepcion, it would appear that prices of rice outside Metro Manila are sometimes higher than the ceilings we have imposed in Metro Manila.

[Lobregat] Good afternoon, Mrs President. I am Marcia Lobregat from MANILA BULLETIN. If only to prove your enemies and detractors are wrong when they asked you to step down from the present scene and to prove that you are still popular and loved by the Filipino people, would you consider calling a snap election at this point?

[Aquino] Those are not good reasons enough for calling for a snap election. I think what we have to impress upon our people is, first of all, at this time, when our nation seems to be troubled by certain divisions, an election will not cure this. Besides, I have already said that in our Constitution, it is very clear that the elections will be held in 1992—in May of 1992. So I would like to remind all those who are in a hurry to get me out of my office, that all they have to do is wait until 1992 and then they can present themselves to the Filipino people and let the Filipino people decide whom they would like to be the leader of the country.

[Lobregat] Another question. When you repeatedly said that the government is watching the exciting developments in Eastern Europe, China and other countries, including Panama, would you be more cautious or would you think twice before seeking or accepting any military assistance from the United States if there is another coup attempt or there are forces out to destabilize the government? And how would the Panama experience affect the forthcoming exploratory talks on the U.S. military facilities?

[Aquino] Well, again, I would like to repeat that it was Ambassador Platt who asked me if there was anything else that I believe that America could do for us at the time and you all know that I had instructed Secretary Ramos to talk with Ambassador Platt on what support, if any, we would need. And we did ask for that air support. You are talking about another possible coup attempt. We are in fact...the reason I am in fact calling the attention of our people to have more interaction between civilians and military is that I believe that this is the best way we can prevent another coup attempt. What happened in Panama is very different from what is happening here. In fact, we have a democracy here. And we have a Constitution, and our people overwhelmingly ratified this Constitution. At the moment, what is important for all of us Filipinos to do is to make sure that we follow very clearly what the Constitution says, and also for all of us to unite with each other so that we can strengthen our democracy and so that we can resolve our problems. [passage indistinct]

[De Jesus] Mrs President, I am Evelyn de Jesus of PEOPLE'S JOURNAL. Among the December 31 cabinet appointees, Education Secretary Isidro Carino has been perceived as the most controversial choice. And it was even disclosed that while still president of the University of the East, he defied the Department of Education's ruling on tuition fees in that school. Did Secretary Carino clarify this already with you, and are you confident that he can pass the Commission on Appointments?

[Aquino] Yes, in fact last night, we were together at the dinner that I had hosted for the students in Metro Manila and for the PMA cadets. And he is ready to give all of his answers to the Commission on Appointments. He has nothing to hide, and in fact, he is, as I said, ready to explain everything at the proper time.

[De Jesus] Another question. It seems many speculations have been made in the wake of the visits of U.S. officials like Robert Gates, deputy national security adviser, and Representive Jim Kolbe of the House Appropriations committee. To disperse these speculations, could you please tell us the purposes of the visits of these officials?

[Aquino] With regard to the visit of Mr Gates, the main purpose was to convey to me the message of President Bush—that he continues to support me and my administration—and also to find out from me what exactly is the situation now obtaining in our country. With regard to Congressman Kolbe, I already said that when I asked him about the proposed recommendations of Senator Dole, he himself said that he is committed for the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Government to fulfill its commitments with regard to the Manglapus-Shultz agreement.

[Guerrero] Good afternoon, ma'am. I am Eileen Guerrero from Associated Press. There seems to be perception in the United States that your government is unstable, that you need to keep your house in order. What are your plans toward such changes? I am referring to the statements by U.S. state officials regarding criticisms or urging you to keep your house in order?

[Aquino] Well, neither Mr Gates nor Mr Kolbe told me to keep my house in order, and it is good that they did not because that could have gotten a different comment from me. At any rate, what I have said about Mr Gates coming here to convey personally to me the continued support of President Bush for my administration. That was exactly what was conveyed to me. With regard to Congressman Kolbe, let me tell you that he was here to see for himself, first of all, Subic and Clark, and later on, when I asked him about the matter of fulfilling their commitments to the terms of the Manglapus-Shultz agreement, he certainly was not only very affirmative about that, but he promised me that once he returns to Washington, he will impress upon his colleagues the necessity of their fulfilling their commitments.

[Guerrero] Do you have any other plans of reform to prevent coups, apart from the dialogues that you have been making with the military officers?

[Aquino] First of all, in the matter of reforms, even without the coup attempts, what we were projecting was first of all, the matter of alleviation of poverty. And you will recall that in my State of the Nation address, I had placed a lot of importance on this and while it is true we have been able to reduce the level of poverty incidence from 59 percent to 49 percent during my administration, we are still very much concerned about the bottom 30 percent of our population. And so we are in effect concentrating and prioritizing the programs and projects which will definitely benefit the bottom 30 percent.

[Veloso] I am Lulu Veloso from AVANTE. Is it true that former central bank governor Jose Fernandez is being groomed by Malacanang as Neda [National Economic and Development Authority] director?

[Aquino] First of all, let us take up the matter of central bank Governor Jose V. Fernandez. He was originally scheduled to leave office on January 19, but then, because of the continued negotiations with our creditors, upon the recommendation of both the secretary of finance and the central bank governor designate Joey Cuisia, I am extending him for another month. After he finishes that month, probably we will just consult with him, but I am not thinking of offering him another position. Besides, at this point, I think he is ready and would like to retire from public service.

About the Social Security System [SSS], as soon as Joey Cuisia returns from abroad, we will be discussing this matter with him. Since he is leaving the SSS, I would like to know from him who are the possible recommendees. He has mentioned some names to me, but since he has left, it was not possible for me to discuss this further with him. I do have someone in mind, and I would just like to check some more things with him.

Aquino Discusses Current Domestic Situation

HK2201064390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1300 GMT 21 Jan 90

[Recorded discussion by President Corazon C. Aquino from the "Ask the President" program hosted by Frankie Batacan; date, place not given—slantlines denote passages in English]

[Excerpt] My dear countrymen:

After we crushed the attempted coup d'etat in December last year, I warned our people that the next step of our enemy would be to confuse our minds through intimidation. /I warned about the seige of the public mind through the systematic injection of fear./ Our enemies today are like defanged dogs whose only asset is their bark, as their bite is no longer effective. By injecting fear in the hearts of the people, they hope to undermine the stability of our society. They believe that concern over the future is the real weakness of our people.

As they have failed before, they shall fail again this time. They cannot escape the strength of our country's judicial system, as their leaders fall one after another into the hands of the people, despite attempts to hide in almost every corner. The trial of some of their leaders has begun. However, in front of television cameras, the accused try to play with the law and the judicial system. They have resorted to all means to prolong the trial.

While I guarantee the civil rights of the accused, this government is determined that the people who have been betrayed will receive justice.

On the military pretrial proceedings, those suspected of involvement in the aborted coup d'etat have been subjected to investigation. Seventeen mutiny and murder charges have been filed before different court-martials of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP], and pretrial proceedings have been initiated. Among those charged are Marcelo Blando, Jose Comendador, Danilo Pizaro, Manuel Hizon, Luisito Sanchez, Romelino Gojo, Arsenio Tecson, Rafael Galvez, Tiburcio Fusillero, Ericson Aurelio, Jacinto Ligot, Franklin Brawner, Alfredo Oliveros, and Cesar de la Pena. Meanwhile, three former AFP officials are being investigated by the Department of Justice, including Felix Turingan, Jaime Lucas, and Oscar Legazpi. They are former AFP officers who were dismissed from the service because of their involvement in the 1987 failed coup attempt. Rebellion charges will be filed against them before a civilian court.

I have ordered the speedy trial of these men and have directed all agencies handling these cases to work with each other. Justice must be administered to all sides, including the people and the accused; this will be accomplished immediately.

Perhaps you have read in the newspapers or seen on television my meeting with captains and lieutenants of the Army and the Philippine Constabulary [PC]. In the past, I have met often with officers—not only generals, but colonels and majors as well—in military camps during my provincial visits. However, this meeting was different because I asked them to prepare questions for me. I invited 40 Army captains and lieutenants for the first meeting, where they conveyed to me a request for a speedier promotion process from captain to major, claiming that the present cycle takes too much time.

Following my meeting with captains and lieutenants in the /Army, the Philippine Constabulary, the Navy, and the Air Force, we will gather all of these recommendations and we will forward them to General de Villa and, in fact, I will be meeting with General de Villa and the major service commanders so that we can speed up on these recommendations, in particular, the matter of promotions from captain to major./

I also explained to our captains and lieutenants the great responsibility they have to our country. I expressed my satisfaction that most of them were loyal to our Constitution and to our people, and told them that this was what the people expected from them.

Meanwhile, they also told me about their problems, such as housing projects supplied by the government. We have a housing project for members of our AFP. Monico Jacob, general manager of the National Housing Authority, will be instructed to meet with them and explain the measures undertaken by the government /with regard to housing projects for both the military and the civilian sectors./

With regard to the counterinsurgency campaign, the officers also appealed for acceleration of rural projects by the government. I explained to them the various government projects for the less fortunate members of our society, specifically the so-called pro-poor programs. This month, we will inaugurate the Samar Island Development Program. They were pleased to learn that the government indeed cares about the conditions of the poor. If they have any questions about government policies, they can always write to my presidential adviser, retired Major General Mariano Adalem.

I will continue to meet with captains and lieutenants because I have only met with those from the Army and the Constabulary. Someone remarked that it would be impossible to meet with all captains and lieutenants. While that may be true, I do think that /this is the best possible way for me to hear what our captains and lieutenants would like government to hear from them, and also for me to tell them exactly what this nation expects of them./ To those who I cannot meet, this is what I would like you to know: I do hear about your complaints and grievances through my meetings with the representatives of all captains and lieutenants. /And I also instructed them to tell you what the nation expects from all of you. And that is, first of all, to remain loyal and true to the Constitution and to the duly constituted government./

I would like to clarify one thing: I have noticed that some of the accused are turning the judicial process into a vaudeville show and circus. Well, I am telling these people: You are not at all amusing. Your every single act of evading justice is an insult to a country waiting for justice. Your interference in the judicial process will only deepen the people's disgust over your betrayal. If you maintain that you have violated no law, then let the instrument of our law move accordingly in order to speed up the trial which will clear your names.

I will now talk about the coconut levy and the calls for justice from our coconut farmers. The former regime imposed a so-called coconut levy on our coconut workers. A percentage of their sales of coconut and copra went to the government in the belief that the money will be used to promote the coconut industry and its workers. Later, it was discovered that this huge sum of money never went to where it was intended, and accordingly, the Presidential Commission on Good Government filed Civil Case No 33. Charged are Eduardo Cojuangco, the Marcoses, Juan Ponce Enrile, Maria Clara Lobregat, and others involved in the powerful cartel controlling the coconut levy fund which really belongs to our coconut workers.

I have ordered the speedy implementation of all steps needed to resolve this case. Our coconut farmers gave their sweat and tears to promote our coconut industry, and they have the right to know what happened to the money extracted from them and entrusted to this erstwhile powerful cartel. I will not tolerate any hindrance to justice for our coconut workers, especially if it comes from the advisers of the accused.

Let us now talk about the case of Governor Aguinaldo of Cagayan Province. You may have heard or read that Secretary Santos of the Department of Local Governments issued a suspension order against Governor Aguinaldo. /As of Saturday, January 20, before 10 o'clock in the morning, Secretary Santos, together with Vice Governor Melvin Vargas, were able to enter the provincial capitol in Tuguegarao, Cagayan, and they were able to do so in a very peaceful manner./

Some of our countrymen have asked why it took so long to suspend the governor. You know, our government /respects law and order, and certainly, we will exhaust all peaceful means before we use force./ You may be happy to know that no one got hurt when Governor Vargas was installed into office. This is our policy: /Everybody is entitled to due process, and we will always use peaceful means in order to enforce the law./ If force is necessary, we will use it. However, we will always prefer the use of peaceful means to avoid hurting people. I just want to ask our people: Do you want a speedy process regardless of who gets hurt? Please always think about this.

Another objective of our enemies is to scare away businessmen. They think that by frightening away the businessmen, they can make the country suffer and thereby win more recruits. I am pleased to report that they have not succeeded in achieving this goal. It was reported to me that shortly after the aborted coup d'etat, 107 investment projects were presented before the Board of Investments. The total foreign investment from these projects amounts to 15.4 billion pesos.

Mark Blacker, president of the American Chamber of Commerce, also reported that 20 or 67 percent of their 30 members are determined to continue their expansion projects in our country. The Japan Chamber of Commerce also expressed this same confidence in our economy. Two large Asian companies also indicated their intentions to continue operations in our country. These are the Kwok group, which plans to proceed with hotel construction projects in Metro Manila and Cebu, and the Korean group, the Ancor or Annam Philippines Incorporated.

The entry and expansion of foreign investments mean more employment and income for our workers. Our government appreciates such confidence in our ability to develop the economy. Any form of intimidation shown to foreign investors will be regarded as economic sabotage.

Confidence in our economy is also demonstrated by our local enterpreneurs. Recently, I met with the Golden Shell awardees who were cited by the Department of Trade and Industry for successfully introducing Philippine products into the international markets. I praised our awardees for their contributions in promoting our products. /Aside from generating foreign exchange, the important contributions of these Filipino enterpreneurs is the worldwide promotion of Filipino creativity and craftsmanship./ [passage omitted]

Aquino Names Chairmen of Cabinet Clusters

HK1701114990 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 17 Jan 90

[From the "GMA News" program]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino today approved the new elected chairmen to the various cabinet clusters. Chairmen were elected at an organizational meeting last week. Presidential executive coordinator Vicente Jayme was elected chairman of the Agro-Industrial Development Sector. Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao chairs the macroeconomy and finance cluster, while presidential executive coordinator Jose de Jesus goes to the human resource development support cluster. Justice Secretary Franklin Derilon is chairman of the security and political development cluster, and Public Works Secretary Fiorello Estuar is chairman of the [word indistinct] infrastructure support cluster.

Ramos Rejects Accusation of Coup Plotting

HK1701095190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMt 17 Jan 90

[By Jonathan Cristobal from Camp Aguinaldo]

[Text] Rebel soldiers who belong to the Reform the Armed Forces Movement [RAM] and the Soldiers of the Filipino People [SFP], and who launched the recent aborted coup attempt, received intensive training from some foreign individuals. This was revealed in an investigation conducted by the Defense Department and was announced by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos at a press conference held at Camp Aguinaldo.

Ramos said that it has been confirmed that certain foreign individuals extended their support to the rebellion by giving intensive training on how to launch a coup d'etat. Meanwhile, others provided financial assistance. Furthermore, Ramos said that some foreign individuals also sent high caliber and sophisticated firearms to the rebels. However, he refused to disclose the nationality, numerical strength, or extent of foreign support for the bloody coup because the country is awaiting the final report, which is expected to be ready by the end of this month.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] Well, there are all kinds. There are a few that are supposed to have given financial support. There are one or two that gave some training support. And I think one or two who tried to bring in firearms allegedly to support the coup leaders and the coup planners. But that is all we know at this time. [end recording]

At the same time, Ramos confirmed that some of the coup leaders were paid for their participation in the rebellion. Based on preliminary reports, he said that a Philippine Constabulary official in Regional Command 7 testified that he had received 10,000 pesos from a known rebel leader for taking part in the coup attempt. However, the soldier surrendered the money to his superior officer, as he declined to take part in the coup attempt.

At the same press conference, Ramos said that 1,906 officials and enlisted men who took part in the coup attempt have either surrendered, been arrested, or been captured by the military. He also denied an allegation by Major Abraham Purugganan, a known rebel leader, that he himself has plans to launch a coup attempt and seize power from President Aquino. Ramos claimed that as a rebel, Purugganan has no credibility to speak of and should not be taken seriously. He also explained that the allegation was part of a smear campaign directed against him because of his staunch conviction in defending the government and upholding his sworn duties under the Constitution.

Ramos Announces Revamp of Cagayan PC-INP

HK2301064790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 23 Jan 90 p 3

[By Noli Cabantug and Marie Rose Feliciano]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos yesterday said the Constabulary and Integrated National Police in Cagayan Valley will undergo a top-to-bottom revamp as petitioned by acting Governor Melvin Vargas and 20 town mayors from Cagayan province.

It was not clear, however, if the move was prompted by the petition. The PC/INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] Regional Command (Recom 2) in Cagayan Valley is presently under Brig. Gen. Pedro Sistoza.

"There will be a revamp but this will be the prerogative of (Armed Forces Chief of Staff) Gen. Renato de Villa," Ramos said in yesterday's Kapihan sa Manila Hotel [Coffee at the Manila Hotel] breakfast forum.

Ramos did not say whether the move was in relation to a petition by Vargas and the other local officials of Cagayan province, who have blamed Sistoza and his command for the slow implementation of the 60-day suspension of Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo.

Aguinaldo was ordered suspended for his participation in the failed coup attempt last December.

Vargas and 20 other town mayors had asked the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] High Command to replace the entire PC-INP leadership in Region 2 with new officers and personnel since, they said, "the present crops are loyal and supportive of suspended Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo."

Vargas said the military under Sitoza "miserably failed to serve the suspension order of the Department of Local Government (DLG) to Aguinaldo thereby prolonging a stand-off in Tuguegarao."

This happened because the soldiers "were under Aguinaldo's influence and control," Vargas said. He pointed out that Aguinaldo, a former Constabulary colonel, was once their provincial commander.

Brig. Gen. Oscar Florendo, AFP Civil Relations Service chief, who was also at the Kapihan, said the streamlining of the Cagayan PC/INP Command would be part of the command changes that would take place as an offshoot of the retirement of 22 senior military officers in April.

Sistoza, however, is not among the retirables.

Meanwhile, Aguinaldo said yesterday that Vargas will only earn the ire of the members of the military with his request to replace the troops detailed in Cagayan.

"Iyang request ni Vargas, lalong magagalit ang military sa kaniya [The military will get more mad with Vargas' request]. They (military), together with their families, have already established themselves here. Tapos aalisin [Then they will be asked to go]," Aguinaldo said.

"Vargas' move will only prompt the soldiers to unite and fight these politicians."

Aguinaldo admitted that some members of the military in his province were rallying behind him. He said this was natural since he had spent more than 20 years in the military service.

MNLF Allegedly Planning To Kill Officers

HK1701051590 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 17 Jan 90 pp 1, 9

[By correspondent Nash Maulana, with a report from D. Pelayo]

[Text] Army troopers killed 13 Moro separatists late last week in Maguindanao in a campaign to flush out supposed surrenderers who were actually plotting to assassinate AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] officers.

Brig. Gen. Gurnersindo Yap, chief of the Army's 6th Infantry Division based in Awang, Maguindanao, said Army soldiers were hunting down the killers of three civilians who were ambushed by the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) on January 8 on their way to rendezvous with the supposed surrenders.

The 13 MNLF rebels were killed Friday in three encounters in Buldon, Maguindanao, where the killers, believed to be members of the MNLF National Security Command (Nascom) under Mubarag Kadaffy and Sammy Guro, are reportedly hiding.

Yap said the troopers recovered 13 guns, one of the two trucks used during the ambush and two radios.

Yap said the supposed surrender of MNLF rebels was merely a ploy and part of a plot to assassinate AFP officers. He recalled the massacre of AFP officers, including Brig. Gen. Teodulfo Bautista, in Sulu in 1977 "surrendering" MNLF rebels.

Exposing the assassination plot, Yap said the senior officers who were supposed to attend the surrender were 603rd Army Brigade commander Brig. Gen. Orlando Soriano and Lt. Col. Gregorio Cordero of the AFP's 12th Civil Relations Service (CRS).

The AFP officers, however, used a different route in meeting the supposed surrenderers on January 30. It was the civilian panel that was ambushed.

In a related development, Maj-Gen. Ramon Montano, PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] chief, said communist rebels committed at least 572 human rights violations during the first 11 months of 1989. Of this number, 422 were liquidations, 88 were kidnappings, 57 were arson and five were bombings.

Montano said the biggest number of NPA killings, 78, was reported in Western Visayas, followed by Southern Tagalog, with 66, and Western Mindanao, 40.

The least killings by communist guerrillas nine occurred in Cagayan Valley.

In Metro Manila, communist rebels were involved in at least 33 killings. No other NPA atrocities were reported in the metropolis, Montano said.

In Southern Mindanao, the NPA was involved in one bombing, 27 killings, 10 arson cases and 10 kidnappings.

Eight Rebels Killed in Mindanao NPA Camp Raid

HK2201103990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 20 Jan 90 p 9

[By Jay Valleser]

[Text] Camp New Leyte, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur—Government soldiers seized yesterday what military officers described as the biggest New People's Army (NPA) camp in Mindanao, killing eight rebels and capturing 18 others, including 10 women.

Army soldiers found obstacle training facilities inside the camp, medical and lecture halls, a kitchen, a guardhouse, four hectares of rice and corn fields, guns, lecture books, a tactical map, training notes, medical supplies and surgical equipment, a communication room, food, and anti-government documents.

Col Cristobal Gurrea, commanding officer of the 401st Infantry Brigade here, said the NPA camp was in a thickly forested mountain in barangay Buatong, San Agustin, Surigao del Sur.

In his report to Brig Gen Rogelio Villanueva, 4th Infantry Division chief, Gurrea said eight rebels were killed, while 15 of their companions were seriously wounded.

He said the offensive started last Jan 6 when 70-NPA rebels attacked a detachment in barangay Diatagon. After the attack, two Army battalions were ordered to pursue the rebels, while other units block their way.

The troops were backed by two "Tora Tora" planes, a Sikorsky helicopter, and two Huey helicopter gunships.

The captured rebels came from Magsaysay, Molave, and Aurora, Zamboanga del Sur, and Tangub City, Gurrea said. No casualty was reported on the government side during the 14-day offensive.

Villanueva ordered Gurrea to continue pursuing the fleeing rebels who reportedly withdrew to the mountains of Agusan del Sur and Davao del Norte.

Bomb Explodes Near Manila Power Company 19 Jan

HK2201103790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 20 Jan 90 p 1

[Excerpt] The military went on full red alert yesterday following the explosion of a bomb in front of the Manila Electric Company (Meralco) main office in Pasig, Metro Manila.

The National Capital Region Defense Command (NCRDC) sent troops to various areas in Metro Manila to secure vital public untilities, a military official said.

Troops were immediately dispatched to guard power and communications stations, including the National Power Corp's transmission lines in Southern Tagalog.

Col. Jose Jachica, NCRDC operations chief, said a one-pound bomb exploded near the flagpole of the Meralco office on Ortigas Ave. at about 2:30 p.m. yesterday.

Two hours later, the Meralco customers' relations office received a phone call threatening a bomb blast in the building.

Police said no group has claimed responsibility for the flagpole bombing. [passage omitted]

Army Chief Announces Redeployment of Rangers

HK1701051190 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 17 Jan 90 pp 1, 9

[By correspondent Noemi Alcala]

[Text] The Army's 2,000 elite Scout Rangers, including the more than 500 putschists who laid siege on Makati last month, have been redeployed all over the country.

This was disclosed Monday night by Army chief Maj. Gen. Manuel Cacanando, who claimed that the move would deter the plan of coup leaders to recruit forces for another attempt to topple the government.

He conceded, however, that the redeployment would not totally solve the problems confronting the Armed Forces, particularly the immediate threat posed by another coup attempt.

Cacanando admitted that only the officers of the 500 Rangers who held Makati for six days last month are detained in Fort Bonifacio. Among them are Lt. Col. Rafael Galvez, Capt. Danilo Lim and Capt. Florencio Flores, who negotiated with Brig. Gen. Arturo Enrile to "return to barracks" after the six day siege.

He said the noncommissioned officers and enlisted men in the Makati siege were among those redistributed among the Army's eight infantry divisions nationwide.

Cacananado said, however, that all 2,000 Rangers are under custodial investigation, meaning they are confined to barracks pending completion of the investigation for direct involvement in the sixth and bloodiest attempt to topple the Aquino government. But he would not say if the Rangers have been disarmed.

At the height of the nine-day fighting last month, the Rangers were reported to have defected to the rebel side because their training officer, Brig. Gen. Jose Blandom, asked them to join the putsch.

Aside from the Makati siege, 400 other Rangers from Surigao and the Misamis provinces took over the Mactan Air Base in Cebu. They have likewise been confined to barracks.

Army spokesman Lt. Col. Benjamin Enrile said the Rangers may be called anytime to Manila by authorities investigating the coup attempt.

Enrile added that the Rangers can no longer be used for combat operations, "not even to reinforce beleaguered units." But the men will still undergo training, he said.

He said a small group of Ranger officers remain at the headquarters of the regiment in Fort Bonifacio to handle administrative matters, such as payroll.

The involvement of several Ranger battalions in the coup attempt prompted Cacanando to recommend the disbandment of the elite corps. Gen. Renato de Villa, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, had expressed agreement, but National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto, founder of the Rangers, said this was not necessary.

The Army officers corps is divided on the proposal. Those who agree claim that the maintenance of a special combat force breeds elitism among the ranks. Those who disagree cite the impressive record of the Rangers in the campaign against the 20-year-old communist insurgency.

Cacananado has been meeting with Army units for the past several weeks to exhort them to remain loyal to the Constitution and the government.

Last weekend, he was in Tacloban, Bacolod and Iloilo cities. In Jamindan, Capiz, where the Army's 3d Infantry Division is based, Cacanando told a company of Rangers that they should be ready to face the consequences of their action for their involvement in the rebellion.

Agrarian Reform Department Outlines Priorities

HK1701051390 Manila BUSINESS STAR in English 17 Jan 90 p 8

[By Sem H. Cordial]

[Text] The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) will gear its efforts this year toward four priority operations of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), as it sets out on a fresh course to speed up the implementation of the government's centerpiece program.

Agrarian Reform Secretary Florencio B. Abad yesterday identified these operations as the rice and corn land transfer under Presidential Decree (PD) 27, the break-up of the country's remaining landed estates, the revitalization of the resettlement areas, and the distribution of the agricultural lands foreclosed by government financial institutions (GFIs).

Abad said he has been assured by the department's staff that they could complete the four operations within the year.

While the claim has yet to be verified, Abad said he will mobilize DAR's resources to support the attainment of the target.

For a more comprehensive approach to speed up the agrarian reform process, Abad has called for a planned conference to be conducted by the second week of next month. By then, he added, the targets and courses of actions of the department for the next two years would have been defined.

The conference is expected to recommend the identification and immediate implementation of critical support services projects.

According to the yearend report of DAR's Bureau of Land Acquisition and Distribution (BLAD), some 556,000 hectares of rice and corn lands have yet to be covered by PD27. This means that DAR will have to work overtime to complete the agrarian reform process within the year.

Last year, only 265,945 hectares, representing 32.4% of the 822,069 hectares yet to be covered, have been distributed.

On the homestead patents and resettlement areas. Abad reported that some 504,000 hectares have yet to be covered by the law. The development and subsequent distribution of the 47 resettlement areas settled on by squatters is posing a difficulty to government. Last year, the department managed to complete the transfer of only 100 hectares, equivalent to a measly 16.6% of the total.

For the landed estates, Abad reported that there are still some 200,000 hectares tied to large landholdings. He however assured that its breakup would be completed this year. Lands foreclosed by government financial institutions, which is believed to reach 130,000 hectares, should pose no problem considering that the transactions involved are purely intra-governmental.

CARP and its implementation has recently become the object of criticisms from a noted group of economists from the University of the Philippines School of Economics. Assessing the program, the group said "the actual process of transferring land to the tiller is going too slow and with too narrow a scope."

Thailand

Khmer Rouge Block Refugees' Move to UN Camp

BK2301083090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0711 GMT 23 Jan 90

[By Michael Adler]

[Excerpts] Bangkok, Jan 23 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge have blocked a U.N. evacuation of refugees in a move which casts doubt on the Cambodian guerrillas' willingness to let their populations leave dangerous war zones, refugee officials said Tuesday [23 January].

The move also raises the question of whether the Khmer Rouge, who killed hundreds of thousands in their Marxist rule of Cambodia from 1975 until toppled by Vietnamese troops in 1979, have changed their policies of keeping an iron grip over populations they control, the officials said.

"These people are ridiculous. They should be stopped. This should not be allowed to go on," one senior official who asked not to be named said of the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge administrator of Borai camp, where some 4,000 civilians live in Thailand on the border with Cambodia, refused Monday to let trucks of the United Nations Border Relief Operation (UNBRO) enter the site to take people to a safer location, UNBRO officials said.

"We do hope that the leadership controlling Borai will reconsider what appears to be a decision to prevent Borai civilians from going to Site K," said UNBRO deputy director Patrick van de Velde about the move to a site further inside Thailand.

Refugee officials who asked not to be named said Khmer Rouge administrator Luk Tea met the UNBRO trucks at the entrance to the camp and said no one wanted to leave.

The officials said gunshots were heard at Borai on Monday and that the Khmer Rouge were apparently moving people from the camp towards other sites along the border where international agencies do not have access. [passage omitted]

Site K was set up by Thai and U.N. authorities in May to guarantee that people under the Khmer Rouge get fair treatment and international help. It was to take people from nearby camps, including Borai, which are assisted by the United Nations but [are located] in dangerous, malaria-infested areas.

The Khmer Rouge have won praise in recent months from diplomats for allowing populations to swell in newly "open" camps such as O Trav in the northern part of the Thai-Cambodian border and Site K, which is in the south.

This had marked a change from traditional Khmer Rouge policy of blocking access to these camps, as shown by the torching of an international aid agency clinic in O Trav in December 1988.

The Borai evacuation was delayed by poor roads which could only be cleared once the monsoon season ended in November. UNBRO on Monday stopped its food and other aid to Borai as a prelude to emptying the camp.

Mr. van de Velde described Site K, where some 8,000 people live, as "a location where they can continue to receive basic assistance and health care from UNBRO.

"We consider it totally unacceptable that civilians in need would be prevented from receiving such indispensable assistance. Civilians, among them many children, sick and elderly, must continue to have access to life-saving services, including basic health care," Mr. van de Velde added.

The Khmer Rouge administer some 55,000 people in U.N.-assisted sites but are believed to have at least that number in "hidden" camps where there is no international surveillance. People in these camps are kept under strict discipline and used as porters and in other support roles for the Khmer Rouge military, people who fled the sites have told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The Khmer Rouge in the past few weeks have moved at least 10,000 soldiers and their dependents from the border into three "liberated areas" inside Cambodia near the Thai town of Aranyaprathet, 250 kilometers east of Bangkok, and near Borai, some 200 kms further south, Thai military sources said.

Khmer Rouge Families Return to Cambodia

BK2201020190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Jan 90 p 4

[Text] Thousands of Khmer Rouge fighters and their families have been moved from secret camps inside Thailand across the border into captured areas of Cambodia, Thai military and civilian sources told REUTERS yesterday.

The sources said the guerrillas and their dependents were moved from hidden camps near the villages of Khao Din and Khao Chong Khaep south of Aranyaprathet in the last few weeks.

They had dismantled their wooden houses and taken their stores and animals with them to areas in northwest Cambodia captured from government forces since the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops last September.

A Thai army officer, who declined to be identified, said there had been strong pressure from Bangkok for the move. An order had been sent from the Supreme Command on January 13 that all the guerrillas should be cleared from Thailand.

Guerrillas of the noncommunist Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), which had also operated from camps on the Thai side following a Vietnamese offensive in 1985, have already moved across, KPNLF officials said.

Apart from the guerrillas and their families in clandestine camps, more than 250,000 civilian refugees live on the Thai side in UN-administered camps.

Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan last week expressed his support for an end to the guerrilla presence in Thailand in response to an appeal by a group of 90 MPs.

Although the government formally denies giving the guerrillas sanctuary, journalists and aid workers have visited guerrilla camps and spoken to military commanders in Thailand.

Thai military sources said the Khmer Rouge, who ruled Cambodia for four years until 1979, moved from camps in the flat scrubland about three km inside the Thai border to three areas under Khmer Rouge control inside their own country.

They were Phnum Malai, just south of Aranyaprathet, Phnum Chakrei just across from the main civilian Khmer Rouge camp of Site 8, and the hilly area near Pailin, a gem-mining town 12 km [as published] captured in October.

The Khmer Rouge and other guerrilla groups use civilians living in their camps to carry ammunition and other supplies to fighters deep inside Cambodia.

Villagers said Khmer Rouge guerrillas had already started road construction in Phnum Malai. Heavy equipment, including bulldozers seized from government forces, have been deployed to clear land.

Sitthi, Lord Brabazon on Cambodia, SRV Refugees

BK2301020590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Jan 90 p 4

[Excerpt] British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Lord Brabazon told Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila yesterday that hopes for peace in Cambodia were moving closer to reality.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Somphong Faichampa briefed reporters following a meeting between Lord Brabazon and ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi at the Foreign Ministry.

Lord Brabazon raised the issue of Vietnamese refugees, saying that Vietnamese seeking resettlement abroad were still arriving in large numbers in Hong Kong, and many of them came through mainland China, Mr Somphong said.

The spokesman quoted Lord Brabazon as saying the trend indicated that Vietnamese immigrants would continue to arrive in Hong Kong.

Lord Brabazon also briefed ACM Sitthi on the recent meeting on Cambodia among senior officials of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, and the progress of Sino-British dialogue over the future of Hong Kong, Mr Somphong said. [passage omitted]

Kidnapping, Killing Reported on Burmese Border

Protest Note Sent to Burma

BK1901012990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] Thailand sent a letter of protest yesterday to Burmese authorities at Myawadi for the Wednesday [17 January] murder of a Thai villager which senior Thai officers believe was an act of revenge related to the kidnapping of eight Thais in the area last Sunday.

Prawat Phapthip, 33, a villager of Ban Mae Kun Ken in Mae Sot district, was shot dead by three Burmese soldiers while he and a friend, Chalam Kitbun, were fishing and picking vegetables along the Thai side of the Moei river.

The protest note was issued by the Army's Task Force 34, which oversees border security in Tak Province, and addressed to Burma's regional border committee.

Informed army sources cited reports by the PM's Office's National Intelligence Agency as saying that the murder of Prawit was in retaliation for complaints by Thai officials to Myawadi authorities about a ransom demand by Burmese soldiers stationed at Palu.

The troops demanded Bt35,000 for the release of eight Thais kidnapped in the area last Sunday. The Thais were released after the ransom was paid on Monday.

Senior Burmese officers have ordered an investigation into the incident as Thai officials have demanded that the ransom money be returned the sources said.

Meanwhile, Tak provincial sources said local authorities have sent a letter to the Interior Ministry requesting it ask the Foreign Ministry to lodge an official protest and demand compensation for the murder.

Col Niphan Siphaibun, deputy commander of Task Force 34, and Mae Sot District Chief Phunchai Niamwatthana said after attending Prawat's funeral that they have forbidden cross-border business with Burmese troops and cautioned villagers to be careful while moving along the common border as any misunderstanding could cause a similar incident.

Villagers' Ransom Money Returned

BK2001032590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] Tak—The Burmese Army yesterday returned Bt35,0000 to Thai villagers who had earlier paid the money to secure the release of five Thais and one chain saw held in Burma by government troops.

Last Sunday eight Thai villagers from Ban Mae Kon Kane crossed the Moei River into Burma and were arrested by Burmese troops stationed at Palu, a Karen camp recently overrun by government soldiers. Three were later released to relay the demand of Bt35,000 for the release of the other five villagers and their chain saw. Bt25,000 was for the five Thais while Bt10,000 was for the chain saw.

The Thais were freed on Monday after the payment was made and later reported the matter to Mae Sot District Chief Pilot Officer Phunchai Niamwatthana, who raised it with the Burmese authorities in Myawaddy.

The villagers later admitted that they had crossed into Burma but that they had earlier paid Burmese troops for logs and went across to get the timber. They were arrested by new troops who were moved into the area.

The return of the $35,000 [currency as published] was made by Major Mya Maung Htun, Burma's deputy commander of the 97th extension battalion in Myawaddy to district chief Phunchai who led a Thai team to Myawaddy yesterday morning.

Mya Maung Htun yesterday expressed regret over the incident and said he had arrested the soldiers involved in the kidnap case.

The Burmese Army yesterday also submitted a letter to the Thai coordination office, requesting the release of four Burmese soldiers arrested for violating Thai territory last Wednesday. The four are being detained at Task Force 34 in Mae Sot.

About 1,500 Burmese troops on Wednesday morning overran a Karen outpost south of Paloo defended by about 500 Karens and 80 Burmese students. The Burmese army also burnt down eight illegal Karen sawmills during the heavy shelling.

800 Karens Cross Border To Escape Fighting

BK1801033390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jan 90 p 7

[Text] Mae Sot—About 800 Karen civilians have fled across the border to take refuge in Thailand following heavy fighting between Burmese and Karen rebel forces in the last three days.

Informed Thai paramilitary sources claimed yesterday that intercepted radio messages of the two warring sides have revealed that some 200 Burmese and rebel troops have been killed and wounded so far in the fighting as Rangoon tries to seize control of the rebel stronghold at Thay Bawbo, opposite Tak's Ban Moen Ruchai village.

The sources said some 800 Burmese troops from a Palu base attacked three Karen-run sawmills being guarded by some 400 rebels along the Moei River opposite Ban Chong Khaep and Ban Huai Nam Nak, about 30 kilometres south of Mae Sot Tuesday, to spark the latest fighting.

In a fierce six-hour assault, the Burmese fired more than 100 rounds of 81mm, 82mm, 105mm and 120mm mortar shells from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., forcing the rebels to finally retreat further south.

After their fall, the sawmills were burned to the ground by the Burmese along with several million baht worth of timber, the sources said.

The fighting has also forced some 300 Karen civilians to flee from rebel-controlled territory to Ban Chong Khaep and Ban Huai Nam Nak and another 500 civilians to Ban Moen Ruchai.

The sources said the main aim of the attacking Rangoon forces this time is to cut off all the Karen National Union's economic lifelines before the onset of the rainy season.

Phop Phra District Officer Narongrith Suktungka disclosed yesterday that as many as 2,000 Karen civilians had fled the fighting to Phop Phra and Mae Sot districts since late last month.

Half of the refugees, he added, are putting up with relatives on the Thai side.

Expressing concern over health and sanitary problems and possible food shortages if the fighting continues, he appealed to charity organisations to provide food, medicine and other relief items for Karen civilian refugees.

Meanwhile, it was reported that a Thai villager was shot dead in the Moei River by Burmese soldiers as he was fishing with a friend.

The Burmese troops reportedly opened fire from the Burmese side of the border, killing Prawat Phapthip.

A Burmese army private was also captured yesterday in Ban Kon Ken of Mae Sot.

The intruder was sent to Task Force 34 headquarters for interrogation.

Sitthi, Chatchai, EC Commissioner Sign Pact

BK2201131990 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] Abel Matutes, EC commissioner responsible for North-South relations and relations with Asia and Latin America, accompanied by his delegation, paid a courtesy call and held talks with Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal [ACM] Sitthi Sawetsila at the Foreign Ministry at 1430 today. Matutes said that although the changes in East European countries will cause the EC countries to provide more assistance to those countries, they will not cause changes in cooperation between the EC and ASEAN, including Thailand. He also assured ACM Sitthi that the formation of a single EC market in 1992 will not be protectionist against economic and technological cooperation with ASEAN, but will help expand their cooperation.

ACM Sitthi discussed Thailand's request to connect the information system between its information center in Brussels, Belgium, and the EC information center. He mentioned the possibility of the EC organizing a workshop [preceding word in English] in ASEAN. ACM Sitthi also brought up the tapioca issue with Matutes. Matutes said that the EC will meet to review the agreement on tapioca cooperation. It is believed that Thailand will benefit from this.

Regarding the Cambodian issue, ACM Sitthi expressed his opinion that there should be much more progress, especially after the five permanent members of the UN Security Council had reached an agreement. Two more meetings are expected to take place, in addition to an informational meeting to be held in Jakarta in late February or early March.

After the meeting with the foreign minister, Matutes and his delegation proceeded to the Government House to meet Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan and to sign an aid agreement under which the EC will provide assistance for four projects of the Agriculture Ministry—a fruit and vegetable plants project, a mulberry project, a rubber project, and an irrigation development project.

Tomorrow, Matutes and his delegation will visit the Site B Cambodian refugee camp in Surin Province, a mulberry project at Chakkarat District of Nakhon Ratchasima Province, and a tapioca plantation and fruit plantation under the EC assistance program at Tambon Phoklang, Muang District of Nakhon Ratchasima Province.

Chatchai, British Minister Hold Discussions

BK2201144590 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] At Government House at 1500 today, Permanent Secretary for Defense General Wanchai Ruangtrakun accompanied British Assistant Foreign Minister (Ivan Anthony Moore) [name and title as heard] to call on Prime Minister Gen Chatchai Chunhawan on the occasion of (Moore's) 19-23 January visit to Thailand. The British assistant foreign minister talked about his interest in the Eastern Seaboard development project and oil refinery. The prime minister said that Thailand also had a project to develop the Southern Seaboard. Thailand is ready to support foreign investments in this project, which will be as large as the Eastern Seaboard development project.

Later, they talked about the Cambodian issue. The prime minister said: No one is going to talk about wars when the current world economic situation is so good. We should bring peace to this region. In solving the Cambodian problem, there should be talks among the four factions. A UN-sponsored cease-fire control mechanism should be set up to verify the troop withdrawal, to conduct a population census, to arrange general elections and a coalition government.

The British assistant foreign minister agreed with the prime minister's proposal and proposed that when the Cambodian issue is settled, Britain is ready to provide assistance for the development of Cambodia.

Communist Party of Malaya Head Returns to China

BK2201021590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Jan 90 p 3

[Text] Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) leader Chin Peng flew back to China last week after spending three months in Thailand supervising truce talks with Thai and Malaysian authorities, security sources said yesterday.

Chin Peng spent most of the time with his guerrillas in camps in Narathiwat and Yala provinces after peace pacts ending 40 years of armed struggle were signed in December, the sources said.

A Thai army senior officer, whose identity was not disclosed, accompanied the CPM leader to China.

Malaysia asked for one year to consider the CPM's request to change its name to the Malayan People's Party and to pursue political activities legitimately in Malaysia.

"The issue is very sensitive and may turn explosive if it is not handled properly," said a security source who has been monitoring developments along the Thai-Malaysian border.

Meanwhile, Thai security officials are arranging the destruction of arms turned over by CPM guerillas, tentatively scheduled for mid-February with witnesses from Thai and Malaysian authorities.

Son Sann Arrives in Bangkok From France 21 Jan

BK2201061490 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and prime minister of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, arrived in Bangkok, Thailand, yesterday [21 January] from France after concluding his mission to the United Nations and Europe.

Vietnam

Paper Acclaims French President's Statement

BK1601153090 Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 16—The army paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in a news commentary on January 15 said that the French president's latest statement ruling out any compromise with the Khmer Rouge is a positive step toward breaking the present stalemate and resuming the dialogue to resolve the Cambodia issue.

The paper quotes LE MONDE and other French newspapers as reporting on January 11 that while receiving Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu in Paris recently, French President Francois Mitterrand said that any compromise with the Khmer Rouge is unacceptable, that the forces of Sihanouk and Son Sann are not strong and reliable, and that the only force to oppose the Khmer Rouge danger is the present Phnom Penh administration. Consequently, it is necessary to create right now every favourable condition for Hun Sen to perform his task, the French president is quoted as saying.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN expressed the hope that the French Government would make timely contributions to the settlement of the Cambodia question commensurate with France's role in the Southeast Asia region.

According to VNA's correspondent in Paris, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a communique on January 15 said:

"France, as the president of the republic stressed most recently, in effect cannot accommodate to the return to power of the men of Pol Pot."

The communique issued following the French minister of state's reception of the representatives of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council before the opening of their meeting on Cambodia, which took place in Paris on January 15-16, further said:

"Everything must be done to prevent such a return, and to replace the menace of arms by a political solution under the auspices of the international community which would allow the Cambodian people to decide their own future through free elections."

Spokeswoman Views 'Practical Role' for Indonesia

BK1901153590 Hanoi VNA in English 1443 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 19—Vietnam welcomes and highly appreciates President Francois Mitterrand's realistic and constructive statement which reflects public disapproval of the genocidal Pol Pot clique and recognition of the de facto authority of the State of Cambodia said Mrs Ho The Lan, spokeswoman of the Foreign Ministry, at a press conference here on Jan. 18.

Asked about the results of Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's recent meetings with chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers Hun Sen and Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Mrs Ho The Lan said: "On January 14, in Ho Chi Minh City, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and his Indonesian counterpart Ali Alatas exchanged views on how to reach a solution to the Cambodia issue, including the initiative of Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans. The Vietnamese side stressed that there are now two short-term and non-basic problems in the Cambodian issue i.e. the mechanism of authority in the transitional period and the United

Nations role in a solution, and two long-term and basic problems, i.e. the holding of general elections and the link-up between Cambodia's neutrality and Southeast Asia's neutrality. If concrete measures could be agreed upon to make the parties concerned feel reassured about the two long-term and basic problems then favourable conditions would be created for solving the other two problems. Indonesia may make a practical contribution to the process of solving the Cambodia issue. Foreign Minister Alatas agreed to actively consider Vietnam's suggestions and declared that there are now the necessary grounds for convening the third Jakarta informal meeting (JIM 3) in the second half of February 1990."

Paper on 'New Hope' for Cambodian Settlement

BK2201161590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 20 Jan 90

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 20 January commentary: "Positive Signals That Promote Dialogue"]

[Text] Recently, there have been diplomatic activities aimed at accelerating the trend of dialogue for a political solution to the Cambodian issue. Australian Foreign Minister Evans' initiative was appraised as pragmatic as far as interests of all parties are concerned. As a result, a broad segment of public opinion and countries and parties concerned quickly responded to and seriously studied this initiative. Those who opposed and showed an attitude of indifference to this initiative are the Khmer Rouge, the other two Cambodian opposition parties, and a small group of persons who still cling to them.

It is understandable that the Khmer Rouge, who are very scared of dialogue, will stubbornly reject all initiatives with a potential to accelerate talks. The path they have chosen is military violence to change the situation in their favor. Their frantic military activities during the last months of 1989 and in early 1990 had testified to this fact. While committing crimes, they strived to create fabrications, claiming victory in one place and another to sow terror among the Cambodian people so as to force these people and the international community to accept them as a prerequisite group in any solution to the Cambodian issue.

It is noteworthy that the Cambodian people and a broad segment of public opinion have increasingly showed disappointment in Mr Sihanouk. Indeed, since the Paris conference in September 1989, Mr Sihanouk has unprecedentedly sided with the genocidal Khmer Rouge. It seems that he has become the spokesman of the Khmer Rouge. The more the Khmer Rouge escalated the civil war, the more the Cambodian people and public opinion showed hatred against them—a reverse result for the Khmer Rouge's wish.

Noteworthy was that on 11 January, French President Mitterrand affirmed that no agreements will be reached with the Khmer Rouge and there should be a cessation of support to Sihanouk and Son Sann. The French president also announced support for the Hun Sen government, the only force in Cambodia that strives to prevent the Khmer Rouge from returning to power.

Earlier, the British Government assigned a diplomat to officially get in touch with the Phnom Penh government. On 18 January, 90 Thai members of parliament, in their signed letter to the Thai prime minister, requested the government to positively adjust its policy toward Cambodia and immediately stop support and sanctuaries for the Khmer Rouge. U.S. public opinion also demanded that the Washington Administration adopt an attitude on the Cambodian issue similar to that of France and Britain.

We hold that these are positive moves by a number of countries in an effort to resolve the Cambodian issue. This reflects world public opinion's refusal to accept the Khmer Rouge and recognition of the de facto power of the State of Cambodia.

Another noteworthy international diplomatic activity was the 15-16 January conference of the five UN Security Council members in Paris. The conference reached cnsensus accepting the UN role in resolving the Cambodian issue, welcomed the resumption of constructive talks between the Cambodian parties, and adopted some principles aimed at resolving the Cambodian issue—such as setting up a supreme national council to ensure Cambodian sovereignty in the transition period; rejecting a solution of using force; supporting a long-lasting peace through a comprehensive political solution, a cease-fire, and cessation of military aid from the outside; and respecting the Cambodian people's self-determination through a free, fair, and democratic general election. However, in their communique, the five permanent members of the UN Security Council did not show a clear-cut attitude about preventing the Pol Pot clique from rekindling the civil war, the remaining major obstacle in the Cambodian issue.

We hold that the power of the United Nations to implement and supervise the provisions of an agreement to be concluded on Cambodia must be based on respect for Cambodia's sovereignty and on the guarantee that the United Nations will not become a governing body or an occupation army imposed on the Cambodian people. Only by adopting a completely impartial attitude and stopping support to one side against the other in Cambodia, as it did during the past 10 years, will this world body be able to fulfill its tasks.

The Cambodian conflict contains many complicated, acute, and decisive domestic and international aspects. As a result, it is not easy to reach a political solution for this issue. However, new hope is emerging. Diplomatic efforts are being made in a positive way to overcome obstacles and reach concrete results.

What are the pressing problems then? SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, in his meeting with Indonesian Foreign Minister Alatas in Ho Chi Minh City on 14

January, stressed that there are now two short-term and non-basic problems in the Cambodian issue—the mechanism of authority in the transition period and the United Nations' role in a solution; and two long-term and basic problems—the holding of general elections and the link between Cambodia's neutrality and Southeast Asia's neutrality. If concrete measures could be agreed upon to make the countries and parties concerned feel reassured about the two long-term and basic problems, then favorable conditions would be created for solving the other two problems.

We highly appraised diplomatic efforts by Indonesia and France—co-chairmen of the Paris conference—Australia, and some other countries, which are aimed at accelerating dialogue. We hope that other countries and parties concerned will adopt a more realistic attitude to create favorable conditions for the success of the third Jakarta informal meeting to be convened in mid-February as proposed by the Indonesian foreign minister.

Trade Experts Receive Cambodian Awards

BK2301151990 Hanoi VNA in English 1456 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 23—Twenty-four Vietnamese trade experts were presented with the "Labour" order and "Friendship" order of the State of Cambodia.

Present at the conferment ceremony held here this morning were Tep Hen, Cambodian ambassador to Vietnam, and Hoang Minh Thang, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and minister of home trade.

Le Duc Anh Greets Lao Army's 41st Anniversary

BK1901050790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] On the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the Lao People's Army [LPA], 20 January 1949-10 January 1990, Vietnamese Defense Minister General Le Duc Anh has sent a message of greeetings to General Khamtai Siphandon, defense minister of the LPDR.

The message said, among other things: Under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP], the fraternal LPA has ceaselessly grown in strength. Over the past 41 years, together with the people of various tribes throughout the country, the LPA has courageously overcome all difficulties and trials, frustrated all enemy scheems of sabotage and acts of aggression, firmly defended the revolutionary gains, and recorded glorious exploits in national construction and defense. We take great pride in having such a loyal friend as the fraternal LPA and note with joy that, throughout the past decades, the peoples and armies of our two countries have always cultivated together our fraternal solidarity, thereby making it fresher and more beautiful with each passing day.

I wish the Lao people and their LPA many more and still greater achievements in their glorious revolutionary cause, successful implementation of the Resolution of the Sixth LPRP Congress, and steady advance on the path of building a peaceful, prosperous, and happy Laos.

On this occasion, we would like to express our heartfelt and deep gratitude for the wholehearted support the fraternal Lao party, government, people, and Army have always given to our people's revolutionary cause.

May the militant solidarity, special friendship, and comprehensive cooperation between the peoples and Armies of our two countries be incessantly consolidated and developed.

Radio Details Events, Developments in Romania

BK2301123990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 17 Jan 90

["Review of Situation in Romania in the Past"]

[Text] In recent days, the situation in Romania has gradually returned to normal. The sound of gunfire has ceased throughout the country. The National Salvation Front has controlled the national situation and taken initial measures aimed at stabilizing the people's life and restoring economic activities. On 26 December 1989, one day after the trial of Ceausescu and his wife, the National Salvation Front set up a provisional government whose duty it is to take care of all affairs until the April 1990 elections. Mr Ion Iliescu, former secretary of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee and member of the National Salvation Front Council, was nominated the country's president. Mr Petre Roman is the new prime minister, and Mr Nikolai Militaru is the new defense minister.

As more and more countries in the world recognize the Romanian National Salvation Front Council, an international campaign for emergency aid to the Romanian people is underway, first of all in the Soviet Union, the GDR, Hungary, China, Japan, and the United States. Planes, trains, and trucks laden with medicine, foodstuffs, and clothes as aid to the Romanian people have arrived in that country. At present, the basic tasks of the National Salvation Front consist of organizing a new administration at all levels throughout the country, removing supporters of the Ceausescu regime, and normalizing economic activities. Military courts have been set up in all cities to try those loyal to Ceausescu.

On 28 December 1989, the National Salvation Front Council made public its program of action, pointing out that the front was giving up the leading role of a monolithic party, was establishing a pluralistic political system, was arranging for free elections in April this year, was changing the name of the country to Romania, and was adopting a republican system of national administration. The National Salvation Front will elect political leaders at all levels, but no one is allowed to hold an office for more than two terms, and no one has the right to be a leader for life.

The National Salvation Front has proceeded to reform the entire national economy on the basis of productivity and efficiency, abolished bureaucratic methods of administrative management together with the centralized economy, and encouraged free competition in all economic sectors. In agriculture, it has introduced specific measures designed to assist peasants and promote the development of production, and suspended the plan to destroy 1,300 villages for the construction of agro-industrial complexes. The National Salvation Front declared respect for the freedom of minority ethnic groups and guaranteed their right to equality with other Romanians.

At the first meeting of the National Salvation Front in late December 1989, Mr Mazilu, vice president of Romania, stated that Romania would be a free, democratic, and noncommunist country. Regarding foreign policy, the National Salvation Front advocates establishing good neighborly relations and honoring Romania's commitments, first of all those under the Warsaw Pact and the Helsinki Accords. The front declared its official recognition for and the establishment of diplomatic ties with EEC member countries. Recently, Assistant to the Yugoslav Foreign Minister (Duki), Hungarian Foreign Minister Horn, and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze have visited Romania.

In recent days, many parties and political and social organizations have been set up in Romania, including the National Christian Peasant Party, the Democratic Party, the League of Romanian Worker-Peasant Brothers, the Romanians' Democratic Alliance with Hungarians, the Social Dialogue Group, and the Initiative Group of Romanian Communist Party Members. However, to date no parties or political groups have been officially registered. On 31 December 1989, the National Salvation Front Council adopted a regulation on the registration and operation of political parties and social organizations, under which militarymen, employees of the Ministries of National Defense and Interior, cadres of courts and protectorates, foreign affairs cadres, and employees of Romanian Radio and Television are not permitted to join political parties.

On 1 January, the National Salvation Front Council declared the abolition of the death sentence. On 3 January, the front decided to change the name of the Romanian news agency AGERPRES to ROMPRES and that of the newspaper SCINTEIA to ADEVARUL, which means truth. According to ADN, all of the Politburo members of the Romanian Communist Party have been arrested; they will be brought to court for trial. Meanwhile, many members of the Romanian Communist Party have called for the convocation of an extraordinary party congress to dissolve the old communist party and set up a new party.

According to foreign sources, remnants of the Securitate loyal to Ceausescu have withdrawn to operate in the mountainous regions. In Bucharest, a number of people have made a suggestion demanding that all communists be excluded from the new power structure.

Hanoi Meeting Marks India's 40th National Day

BK2301153190 Hanoi VNA in English 1445 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 23—A mass meeting was held here today to mark the 40th national day of the Republic of India (January 26).

The meeting jointly held by the Vietnam AAPSO [Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization] Committee, the Vietnam-India Friendship Association, and the March 8 Textile Mill, was attended, among others, by President of the Vietnam AAPSO Committee Trinh Ngoc Thai and Indian Ambassador Jagdish Chandra Sharma.

In his speech, Trinh Ngoc Thai recalled the major achievements recorded by the Indian people over the past 40 years in national construction. He praised India's positive foreign policy against imperialism, and for peace, nonalignment, national independence and development, and said:

"The time-honoured Indo-Vietnamese friendship cultivated by the late Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and the late President Ho Chi Minh has been further consolidated and developed. The Vietnamese people are grateful for the strong support given to them by the Indian Government and people, and highly appreciate the latter's great contributions to the struggle for peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia, especially their efforts for a solution to the Cambodia issue."

Taking the floor, Jagdish Chandra Sharma, noted that the friendship and all-round cooperation between the two countries had been constantly consolidated, and that these relations fostered by Jawaharlal Nehru and Ho Chi Minh should be further promoted, especially in economy and trade.

Also on this occasion, the March 8 Textile Mill chapter of the Vietnam-India Friendship Association, the sixth in Vietnam, made its debut.

Editorial Hails 'International Solidarity'

BK2301120990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 22 Jan 90

[23 January NHAN DAN editorial: "International Solidarity—A Source of Strength for Our Cause"]

[Text] At this time 40 years ago, our country officially established diplomatic ties with many countries such as the USSR, the PRC, the DPRK, and a host of other socialist countries in Eastern Europe. This important event marked a new qualitative development in the relations of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between our country and other countries in the world's socialist system.

The fact that these fraternal countries recognized the Democratic Republic of Vietnam—now known as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam—and established full diplomatic relations with Vietnam at a time when our country's revolution was beset with countless difficulties and ordeals and when our people were conducting a war of resistance for national salvation is of paramount significance. This served not only as a source of strong support and encouragement for our people to surge forward to gain victory in their just struggle, but also as a shining manifestation of militant solidarity between fraternal comrades who are jointly struggling for a lofty goal—socialism. This also attested to the rapid growth and maturity of the Vietnamese revolution and to the ever-higher prestige of Vietnam in the world arena.

We note with joy that over the past 4 decades, the well-tested relations of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between our country and our fraternal socialist countries—based on Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism—have constantly developed. In war as well as in peace, in difficult times as well as in victorious times, the people of the fraternal socialist countries have always stood by the side of our people. Throughout the process of struggle for independence and freedom and for socialist construction under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, our people have received with deep emotion the immense sentiments of solidarity from our comrades and friends throughout the five continents, especially the great, effective support and assistance given by the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries as well as the close solidarity from our close comrades-in-arms of Laos and Cambodia. It is the strength of this international solidarity and cooperation that has contributed greatly to making it possible for our people's struggle to overcome all twists and turns in scoring famous combat exploits, liberating the nation, achieving national unification, and advancing the entire country to socialist construction.

Our party and people have always regarded international solidarity—especially their friendship, solidarity, and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries—as a decisive factor in the victory of the Vietnamese revolution. We are also clearly aware of our nation's international obligation and have striven to fulfill this obligation, especially toward the Lao and Cambodian peoples.

We would like to sincerely express our deep gratitude to the parties, governments, and peoples of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, and to the parties, governments, and peoples of the two close neighboring countries of Laos and Cambodia, as well as to revolutionary people the world over, for having given us their wholehearted support and assistance.

On their path of growth, our socialist countries are facing serious difficulties, with many of them now meeting with a grave economic, political, and social crisis. This crisis is caused by many subjective and objective factors, and it does not stem from the nature of the socialism-based social system. We are convinced that these fraternal countries will be able to overcome their ordeals and continue to advance along the path of socialist construction in its true sense.

Our people are determined to successfully carry out the renovation undertaking advocated by our party, and to actively contribute to efforts to renovate and strengthen the relations between socialist countries under new conditions of the ever-changing situation.

On this occasion, our people extend to the fraternal and friendly countries our best wishes for a happy new year.

Our people reaffirm our desire to constantly develop their traditional relations of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, as well as with Laos and Cambodia, on the basis of mutual respect and mutual benefit for the sake of peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism.

We sincerely wish for an early restoration of the traditional Sino-Vietnamese friendship for the sake of the fundamental, long-term interests of the two peoples, and for peace, national independence, and socialism in this region and the world over.

Regarding the international solidarity spirit as a source of strength for our cause, our people will constantly struggle to contribute to further increasing the quality and efficiency of all of our relations of cooperation with our fraternal countries and friends throughout the five continents.

Nguyen Van Linh Visits Hoc Mon District

BK2301050190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 21 Jan 90

[From the 21 January Daily Press Review]

[Text] The paper SAIGON GIAI PHONG today reports that Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh on 20 January attended a Lunar New Year meeting of families of wounded soldiers and fallen combatants, and those who have given meritorious service to the revolution in Hoc Mon district, Ho Chi Minh City.

At the meeting, the general secretary recalled members of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee who had once worked in Hoc Mon district. Comrades Le Hong Phong, Ha Huy Tap, Nguyen Van Cu, and Nguyen Thi Minh Khai stayed at this base to carry out the party's activities, thanks to assistance provided by the local people.

From the Soviet-Nghe Tinh and Nam Ky uprisings to the two protracted wars of resistance against the arch-imperialists, the party triumphantly foiled all enemies thanks to the Vietnamese people's unswerving confidence in the party. The party was the leader, but the people were the ones who sacrified and scored achievements. Without the people the party cannot achieve victory. Today, the party still leads our people in accordance with Uncle Ho's ideology and ethics.

On the occasion of the Lunar New Year, the general secretary wished those present at the meeting and their families good health. He urged them to strive to bring the Vietnamese glorious tradition into full play and to contribute to building and strengthening the party and the administration, thereby helping the revolution to advance further.

Do Muoi Addresses Power Corporation Conference

BK2301143190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] A Voice of Vietnam correspondent reports from Ho Chi Minh City that in 1989, Electric Power Corporation No 2 received and satisfactorily used new power sources, power grids, and transformer stations. The corporation produced 68 million kilowatt-hours in excess of its production plan, with hydroelectric power plants accounting for 70 percent of the output. The amount of electric power distributed for commercial use increased by nearly 22 percent over 1988. The corporation concentrated on strictly guiding power distribution and applied many measures to cut power loss, make the fullest use of electricity generated by the Tri An Hydroelectric Power Plant, and strengthen business management. This helped cut power loss by 0.5 percent compared to 1988, and helped boost the total output in 1989 to 166 million kilowatt-hours.

Speaking at a conference held to review the corporation's achievements in 1989, Comrade Do Muoi, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, said: The electricity sector must continue to create power sources for the south at a fast pace in order to meet the requirement for socioeconomic development. Electricity must be one step ahead of other sectors in economic development. The electricity sector must really practice profit-and-loss accounting and operate at a profit for reinvestment. Utmost attention must be paid to reserve sources of thermoelectric power, and an all-out effort made to further reduce the loss of electric power.

Do Muoi, Panel Work on Economic Accounting

BK2101093490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Comrade Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Comrade Phan Van Tiem, chairman of the State Price Commission, recently worked with the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee and some enterprises at the central and local levels on matters related to economic accounting.

Implementing the party's sixth plenum resolution, in 1989 the Council of Ministers decided to improve economic accounting in the direction of refixing the prices of materials; adjusting the systems governing state revenue, credit, and liquid assets; reconsidering various input factors; overcoming the state of subsidy and the falsification of losses and profits in production and business activities; and reducing the overspending of state budget.

Generally speaking, many production or business establishments were able to undergo an immense, trial step despite the fact that they had enountered numerous difficulties earlier. In 1989, important progress was also made in the socioeconomic situation, as prices became more stable and the rate of inflation dropped.

However, adequate attention still had not been paid to economic accounting. The costs of a certain quantity of raw materials, fuel, chemicals, and energy used in production were still not fully calculated. Meanwhile, most of the losses arising from the basic depreciation of fixed assets still remained unaccounted for.

Starting from early 1991, financial settlement in the CEMA bloc will be based on international prices. Therefore, right from the beginning of this year we must make essential preparations for readily coping with this new move.

In this direction, the Council of Ministers is expected to readjust the selling prices of raw and other materials and fuel and energy, as well as to gradually include losses arising from the basic depreciation of fixed assets in production costs to be in line with the actual situation.

In view of this, all production and business must prepare themselves and the necessary measures to reorganize work related to economic accounting after new decisions are enforced by the Council of Ministers.

Vo Chi Cong Attends Tree-Planting Ceremony

BK2301074590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] On 22 January, the Ministry of Forestry and the Hanoi people's committee organized a ceremony to initiate the Tet [Vietnamese Lunar New Year] tree-planting campaign in memory of Uncle Ho at Dong Da Hill, Hanoi.

Attending the function were Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong and leading cadres of the Forestry Ministry; representatives from Hanoi municipality, Bac Thai, Ha Son Binh, Ha Bac, and Ha Nam Ninh Provinces; representatives from sectors and branches at the central level; members of the diplomatic corps; teenagers; and newsmen from various newspapers.

Addressing the function, Council of State Chairman Vo Chi Cong warmly commended the forestry sector, units, mass organizations, elders, and teenagers for their efforts and achievements in tree planting and afforestation during the past 30 years. The chairman expressed the hope that all individuals and families in the capital will participate in this tree-planting campaign so as to increase the number of trees in the nation. Afterward, Comrade Phan Xuan Dot, minister of forestry began the tree-planting campaign.

This year, the nation will plant 120,000 hectares of integrated forests and 455 million trees of various species.

Implementing the tree-planting campaign, Comrade Le At Hoi, chairman of the Hanoi people's committee, expounded on the determination of the cadres and people of the capital to plant 3,500 hectares of integrated forests and 12 million trees in 1990.

Afterward, Chairman Vo Chi Cong and those attending the ceremony planted trees on the historic Dong Da Hill.

Le Duc Anh Pays Visit to Army Division

BK1901051790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] On the occasion of the 1990 New Year and in anticipation of the Tet of the Year of the Horse, General Le Duc Anh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of national defense, paid a visit to the 302d Division in the 7th Military Region to present his Tet greetings.

During a meeting with the division's key cadres, the comrade minister solicitously inquired about the work and living conditions of the officers and men of the unit. Comrade Division Commander Colonel Hoang Trong Loi briefed Minister Le Duc Anh on the status of his unit. Since its founding nearly 11 years ago, the division has spent more than 10 years performing its international duty in Cambodia and only returned in late September 1989. At present, the division simultaneously stands ready to fight and consolidate its organizational structure in order to turn itself into a compact, light, highly mobile, and combat-ready unit.

Minister Le Duc Anh advised the division's cadres and combatants to bring into full play its tradition of a hero unit, build the division into a unit loyal to the party and the socialist ideal, develop the character of Uncle Ho's soldiers, and make the division strong and stable in response to the Army-building requirements in the new situation.

Le Duc Anh Visits Southern Military Units

BK2301092290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] On the occasion of the New Year and in welcoming the Tet Canh Ngo [Year of the Horse] festival, General Le Duc Anh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of national defense, on 19-20 January paid a Tet visit to a number of military units in the South, including military hospital No 175 and the heroic 7th Division.

At military hospital No 175, Minister Le Duc Anh visited several departments and talked to leading cadres of the hospital. He urged the hospital to pay special attention to the daily life of cadres, workers, and personnel so as to encourage them to carry out assigned tasks satisfactorily, especially the treatment of wounded and sick soldiers. He urged leading cadres to provide special treatment and other assistance to seriously wounded and sick soldiers so as to help them to further their studies and participate in production, thereby contributing to improving the society and their families' daily life.

Visiting the 7th Division—which twice received the heroic unit title—Minister Le Duc Anh worked with key cadres of the division and extended Tet greetings to units of the 209th Regiment. During his meeting with these units, the comrade minister urged officers and combatants to satisfactorily develop the heroic unit tradition in the new stage. He urged them to build and strengthen their units, to make them firm in all aspects to serve as a basis for building the all-people national defense, to develop the characteristics of Uncle Ho's soldiers, and to overcome difficulties to build strong units to commemorate President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary and other major national anniversaries in 1990.

Mai Chi Tho Attends Interior Ministry Meeting

BK1601102390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The Interior Ministry opened a conference in Hanoi on the morning of 15 January to review the achievements of the mass movement for national security in the 3 years between 1987 and 1989. In attendance were Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly; Mai Chi Tho, minister of interior; and other leaders of the Interior Ministry and more than 500 delegates representing various units, localities, public agencies, subwards, villages, and individuals recognized as progressive models of the movement.

The conference heard reports by the delegates from Ha Nam Ninh, Kien Giang, and Ha Son Binh Provinces; Dong Da Ward of Hanoi, Yen Hung District of Quang Ninh, and Giong Trom District of Ben Tre; Da Sa Village of Don Duong District, Lam Dong Province; and Quoc Nam Village, Dac Lac Province. It also heard reports by representatives of the Assault Youth Unit of Tran Phu Subward in Bac Giang City, Ha Bac Province, and the Ta Gia Khau Border Defense Post in Hoang Lien Son Province. Lam Phat Tai from Ho Chi Minh City, Tran Van Hat from Haiphong, and Han Thi Thu Ha from Hoang Lien Son Province were pacesetting individuals who presented their reports at the conference. All of the reports dealt with experience in organizational work and the performance of duties in the maintenance of public order and security.

Le Quang Dao Speaks on Public Order, Security

BK1901050190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] The conference held by the Ministry of Interior to review the progress of the mass movement for national security has concluded successfully after 3 days of work.

The experiences reported by various localities, units, public organs, enterprises, and individuals at the conference were a lively reflection of the mass movement to protect the fatherland's security in response to the requirements of the cause of renovation. They also proved the people's great role in the maintenance of public order and security.

Speaking at the conference, Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, stressed: The National Assembly highly appreciates the all-out efforts of the people's public security forces. In the period ahead, the objectives should be for us to make every effort to effect important change in the mass movement for national security inside public organs and enterprises and to do an even better job of maintaining public order and security in towns and cities.

The conference presented many Military Exploit Orders, National Security Medals, letters of commendation from the Council of Ministers, and Outstanding Emulator Banners from the Ministry of Interior to 157 units and individuals credited with outstanding achievements in the mass movement for national security over the past 3 years.

Council of Ministers Issues Spending Directive

BK2301135990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] On 19 January 1990, the Council of Ministers chairman issued Directive No 20-CT providing some regulations on expenditures as follows:

So far, our party and state have renovated and perfected the economic management mechanism step by step, giving state economic units more autonomy in production and business operations, creating favorable conditions for the nonstate economic sector to vigorously develop its activities in the right direction and in accordance with the law, and renovating the management of state economic affairs step by step.

However, the new mechanism has not yet been applied uniformly. Many irrational points should have been rectified. There still exist many shortcomings in implementing the new mechanism. A number of degenerate and deviant cadres have taken advantage of loopholes in the management mechanism to serve their own interests through corruption, bribery, and the practices of giving special privileges and of extravagant spending. Unit chiefs and chief accountants in a number of sectors, agencies, and enterprises have failed to take appropriate measures aimed at effectively curbing the above-mentioned negative phenomena. Worse still, some of them have deliberately committed violations.

To guarantee serious implementation of the National Assembly's resolution, the Council of Ministers chairman hereby reminds the comrade ministers and chairmen of provincial, city, and special sector people's committees directly subordinate to the central echelon of the need to scrupulously implement state regulations on expenditures and to pay special attention to the following points:

1. Whatever forms they may take, income distribution and the use of public funds must be effected openly and according to the Council of Ministers' regulations. Steps must be taken to abolish illegal funds. As for those units which still lag behind in making budget contributions, only wage payments to workers should be continued and payment for other allowances must be postponed.

2. To prevent the practice of setting low prices in order to earn profits from price differentials and of misappropriating public funds while transferring, buying, selling, and handling assets, materials, and goods, steps must be taken to widely apply the method of selling by auction and open bid calling under the control and supervision of the various organizations and agencies concerned.

3. It is strictly forbidden to use public funds to throw parties or to buy gifts for organizations and individuals. The purchase of gifts to be presented to foreign organizations and individuals must be made in accordance with the Council of Ministers' regulations.

4. Production and business establishments, state agencies, mass societies, Army units, and other organizations should practice thrift while holding conferences, festivals to review past achievements, or social functions. It is strictly forbidden to use imported liquor, beer, and cigarettes on those occasions.

5. Production and business units are allowed to give bonuses to cadres and workers only after they have fulfilled their obligation to the state budget. Bonuses must be based on actual work performance. As an immediate objective, the bonus amounts must be based on Council of Ministers Decision No 202-HDBT, dated 28 December 1989. Administrative and professional units must keep wage payments and bonuses within the limits of their alloted funds.

6. Unit chiefs and chief accountants must be held responsible for violations of financial management principles by units and individuals under their charge. Ministers, chairmen of state commissions, heads of agencies subordinate to the Council of Ministers, and chairmen of provincial, city, and special sector people's committees

directly subordinate to the central echelon must be held responsible for violations committed by organizations under their charge.

Government Issues Message on Illegal Checkpoints

BK2301130790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] On 20 January, the Council of Ministers chairman sent a message to the people's committee chairmen of provinces, cities, and special zones. The text is as follows:

On 20 December 1989, the Council of Ministers chairman sent Message No 2460 to provinces and cities on the disbandment of illegally established checkpoints in some localities which hamper the circulation of goods among localities. The central coastal provinces have generally complied with this message scrupulously. However, in other provinces, goods are still being controlled.

Quang Ninh Province recently reported that the price of rice had suddenly increased largely because of the difficulties caused by some provinces—such as Hai Hung and Haiphong—hampering the shipment of rice to Quang Ninh. Along some roads in Nam Bo, mobile control teams are still causing trouble for the circulation of goods.

With a view to ending this situation and correctly implementing the policy of freely circulating those goods not controlled by the state, and especially, to ensure the stabilization of market prices on the occasion of the coming Lunar New Year festival, the Council of Ministers chairman urges the people's committee chairmen of provinces, cities, and special zones to immediately carry out the following:

1. Immediately disband the checkpoints and mobile control teams that have been illegally established by localities—including those in provinces, districts, precincts, and villages—to control and collect taxes, causing trouble for the circulation of goods among localities countrywide. This includes some checkpoints and mobile control teams that have been established with the main purpose of acquiring funds for localities.

2. Nevertheless, special attention must always be paid to the inspection, control, and management of the market so as not to allow smugglers to take advantage of the situation. Professional measures must be used to follow up, radically manage, and organize the control of various objectives in order to mete out punishment in accordance with the law. If control along roads is ever required to intercept contraband, the operation must be closely organized to take contraband to authorized checkpoints, and records on the apprehension must be set up and confirmed by all parties involved. It is forbidden to casually intercept transport facilities and confiscate goods.

Chairmen of the people's committees of provinces, cities, and special zones are duty bound to provide guidance for the implementation of the aforementioned points.

1989 State Economic Sector's Performance Viewed

BK1801152790 Hanoi International Service in English 1100 GMT 18 Jan 90

["Report on the performance of the state economic sector in 1989"]

[Text] 1989 was the year of big trial for the state-owned economic sector in Vietnam marked by stiff competition by other economic sectors. Entering the race, the state sector—which until recently has been greatly favored by subsidization and monopoly rights in many respects—showed visible embarassments due to its cumbersome and ineffective managerial mechanism and outdated technology.

May 1989 saw the climax of its hard time. Many enterprises faced acute shortage of capital due to the unavailability of more than 1,000 billion dong worth of stocks; 20 percent of the workforce were laid off and some district level factories were closed down. The question of reverting to the state subsidization system was raised by not a few of its economic leading staff. However, most enterprises were resolved to exercise their autonomy and faced the challenge.

They have focussed their efforts on four points: diversifying their products to expand consumers' choice, applying new technology to improve quality, streamlining the workforce and saving materials to bring down the prices, and seeking outlet through direct contact and advertisement. The result obtained so far has been modest, but inspiring in view of the rocky beginning it experienced. The state economic sector registered a 3 percent increase in its industrial output in 1989 and contributed 800 billion dong to the state budget or 40 billion dong more than in 1988.

Though by now about 30 percent of the state-owned enterprises still remain unable to tide it over, the state economic sector as a whole has created a momentum with which to enter the new year and it is expected to make new strides because so far the state-owned enterprises have used only 60 percent of their capacity.

Labor, Social Welfare Minister Reviews 1989

BK1801113890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] The minister of labor, war invalids, and social welfare held a news conference in Hanoi on 11 January to review the ministry's activities in 1989. Many reporters from newspapers, news agencies, radio and television broadcasting stations at the central level and in Hanoi attended the function.

Thanks to major changes in the state economic policy, about 10 percent of the 12 million families of our population enjoyed a better living during the past year, of which 10 percent became rich through their labor, technical skills, and investment using their own capital. Generally speaking, the nine million peasant families in the rural areas enjoyed a peaceful life, especially in localities where cultivated land is abundant and water is sufficient, such as the Dong Thap Muoi region and the Long Xuyen rectangle. However, in some localities peasants faced difficulties in their daily life after the implementation of Resolution No 10 on the contractual system. This was because the peasants had to make more contributions at the input end to serve the large-scale production system. In various towns and cities, almost one million families of workers and civil servants experienced changes during the past year. Some families, taking advantage of loopholes in implementing the new mechanism, amassed wealth; while the others could not earn even the minimum income.

Through a random survey of 32 state-run enterprises throughout the country, only five establishments fulfilled requirements at the input end and made some profits. Many units, in reality, used their own permanent assets to operate activities, while providing high salary for their personnel—some earned up to 700,000 dong a month. One of the causes of this situation was the incorrect implementation of the state-run enterprise management mechanism at these localities—that was the mixture between the old and new management mechanism. Specifically, directors of some establishments earned up to ten million dong each month, while the daily life of cadres and workers was not sufficiently ensured, even at the minimum level. About 50 percent of the 700,000-800,000 families subjected to social welfare assistance, lived under the average level in their localities, while retirees faced numerous difficulties and irrational treatment in their daily life. Per diem and allowances for combatants of the armed forces, especially those on duty at the border areas or on offshore islands, were not sufficient and irrationally provided sometimes.

During the past year, the labor, war invalids, and social welfare sector made great efforts to help the state resolve the surplus labor and revise policy toward those subjected to social welfare assistance, especially families of the fallen combatants, veteran revolutionists, and seriously wounded soldiers. However, due to the numerous great difficulties facing the society and the nation, the sector will strive to resolve each case rationally in the days ahead. It will, specifically, define clear measures to resolve difficulties in the issues of wages, jobs for workers, and social policy.

Dealing with international cooperation in labor which was recently raised by the press and public opinion, Minister Tran Dinh Hoan said: At present, Vietnam has participated in international labor cooperation programs, sending about 240,000 workers to work in socialist and nonsocialist countries. These workers have been highly appraised by our friendly countries. Many directors of foreign establishments recognized the Vietnamese as diligent, clever workers who are able to effectively apply scientific and technological innovation to production. However, the recent major political upheavals in Eastern European countries have affected Vietnamese laborers working there. These countries have experienced unemployment problems, thus affecting the Vietnamese workers' incomes. The comrade minister, however, said that the 40 percent salary sent home to their families by Vietnamese workers abroad was too low. He said that he has proposed that the state review this issue to encourage the workers to send home 100 percent of their money if possible.

The labor, war invalids, and social welfare sector in 1989 also investigated and took disciplinary action against 20 percent of the Vietnamese labor management cadres who worked abroad and who were denounced for being involved in some negative phenomena. In 1990, the sector will conduct more investigations and strengthen control over the contingent of Vietnamese labor management cadres working abroad. The comrade minister also proposed that the state clearly affirm soon Vietnam's objectives in international labor cooperation for the 1991-95 period.

Objectives for Public Health Service Detailed

BK2201161690 Hanoi VNA in English 1529 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 22—Following the national conference of the Vietnam Health Service held recently in the former imperial city of Hue, central Vietnam, Minister of Public Health Prof. Pham Song granted an interview to VNA. Following are questions and answers:

Q: What is your assessment of the achievements obtained in 1989 by the health service?

A: First of all, I would like to inform you that the National Assembly at its recent sixth session, assessed that the six national health programs have been carried out satisfactorily. First, 71 percent of under-one-year have been vaccinated against the six major child-killer diseases (measles, diarrhea, whooping cough, tetanus, tuberculosis, diphtheria) despite our poor material conditions and low investment compared with other countries in the region. We are striving for the target of 80 percent by May this year. Second, the birthrate has dropped by 0.04 percent and the mortality rate remains stable at 0.63 percent.

The programs against diarrhea and malnutrition among children received good rating by the World Food Programme [WFP]. We have supplied enough medicines to areas hit by natural disasters. We have begun collecting medical fees which, however, can cover about 2-10 percent of the cost, while continuing to provide free medical care for 21 million people including government employees, pensioners and persons covered by government welfare schemes.

Q: Which of the 10 points in the primary healthcare program is given priority?

A: Our biggest concern from now to 1995 is to strengthen the grass-roots medical network so as to give better care to mothers and children, and to implement family planning.

Besides, we'll have to upgrade the quality of personnel training and scientific research, with priority given to key sciences in service of grass-roots health care and the cooperation projects with foreign countries.

Q: What about foreign assistance to our medical work? What is the prospect of Vietnam's cooperation in this field with other countries in the region and across the world?

A: The assistance of various agencies of the United Nations such as UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA [United Nations Fund for Population Activities], WHO, etc... is extremely important. In addition, Vietnam has received notable assistance from the Swedish and Italian Governments and non-governmental organizations such as Hilfactson (FRG), Joicef (Japan), Frontierless Doctors (France and FRG), the Netherlands-Vietnam Doctors' Society, etc. Total assistance amounted to 25 million U.S. dollars in the last year. Vietnam has signed four-year cooperation programmes with UNFPA and UNICEF, and a two-year cooperation programme with WHO. On behalf of the Vietnamese Ministry of Public Health, I would like to sincerely thank them all for their generous assistance.

In 1990, Vietnam will cooperate on a mutually beneficial basis with the Soviet Union, Mexico and Bulgaria in medical treatment by acupuncture and traditional medicine, and cooperate with India, France, Czechoslovakia, and Bulgeria in the research and production of pharmaceutical materials. With regard to Southeast Asian countries, our cooperation still consists in exchanging researchers and remains in the framework of the cooperation with international organizations. The Vietnamese health service is looking forward to further assistance from UN agencies, the Italian Government which will povide medical aid worth two million U.S. dollars for Ha Bac Province (north of Hanoi), and the governments of other countries.

Q: The socioeconomic situation in Vietnam is undergoing far-reaching changes. What programmes and measures will the Vietnamese health service take to meet those developments?

A: We will continue with the six national healthcare programmes and the three ministerial-level programmes. To this end we shall carry out the nine following overall measures:

1. To socialize and legalize medical work. To enforce the law on healthcare through systematic inspection.
2. To better care for the life of medical workers.
3. To build and strengthen the material bases of the health service.
4. To renovate the economic mechanism of the service.
5. To develop the use of traditional medicine.
6. To promote personnel training and scientific research.
7. To improve personnel work and renovate the work style of medical workers.
8. To carry out health education for the people through the mass media, and make health education a compulsory subject at school, to develop community-based healthcare,
9. To work out a comprehensive training program for the next generation, particularly after 1995.

Seminar on Labor Statutes Held in Hanoi 15 Jan

BK1801044890 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] A seminar on the labor statutes in foreign-owned or joint enterprises with foreign investors was organized in Hanoi on 15 January by the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids, and Social Affairs with financial assistance from the International Labor Organization [ILO]. It was attended by Tran Dinh Hoan, minister of the sponsoring ministry, and representatives of the ILO and the UN Development Program.

Hanoi Reportedly Creating Jobs for 'Jobless'

BK2001153490 Hanoi VNA in English 1428 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 20—To create jobs for all working people has long been a topical problem facing the administration of Hanoi, with a population of more than three million, and many other populated centres in Vietnam.

In four suburban districts alone, there are about 30,000 jobless persons, most of them graduates from secondary education and high schools, surplus labour due to the stream-lining of business and production units and members of dissolved weak cooperatives.

Worthy of note is that almost all those considered as "jobless" are actually (?carving) a living by one way or another. Therefore Vietnamese economists are introducing a new concept about "employment" which does not necessarily mean "being on the permanent pay-roll of the state" as was understood under the government-subsidized system in the past.

To create more jobs to meet the diversified requirements of the urban life, the city administration has given the green light to the development and operation of all private servicing businesses like tailoring, construction, electronic and electric services, repair of automobiles, motorcycles, type-writers, etc., the services for wedding parties and funeral occasions, healthcare, and beauty parlours.

Apart from traditional state-run factories, private undertakings and joint ventures, with investments from foreigners or overseas Vietnamese nationals, are emerging in increasing numbers in Hanoi, giving jobs to about 5,000 well-trained persons and high-skilled workers.

Nationwide Agricultural Production Reported

BK2101084990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Summary] "As of 15 January, southern provinces had harvested more than 1 million tonnes of 10th-month rice or 73 percent of the cultivated area, a 50 percent increase compared with the corresponding period last year. The pace of harvest in the Mekong River delta provinces, however, was slow. So far they have harvested almost 600,000 hectares—only 64 percent of the cultivated area or 96 percent of the corresponding period last year."

During the past week, localities throughout the country have concentrated their efforts on planting the winter-spring rice. "As of 15 January, the nation had planted more than 1.2 million hectares or 57 percent of the set plan norm, a 30 percent increase compared with the corresponding period last year. Northern provinces have planted almost 300,000 hectares, and southern provinces more than 900,000 hectares."

The planting of subsidiary food crops was slower than last year. "To date, localities throughout the countries have planted more than 346,000 hectares, achieving 36 percent of the set plan norm or 88 percent of the corresponding period last year."

Regarding harmful insects, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry has reported that stem borers and brown planthoppers have appeared in ricefields of northern provinces, while cotton leaf rollers are spreading in southern and central coastal localities, damaging more than 20,000 hectares of winter-spring rice. Brown planthoppers also appeared in the 10th-month and winter-spring ricefields in the Mekong River delta provinces.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry urged localities to concentrate their efforts, in the days ahead, on the following tasks:

—Northern provinces should speed up the planting of 5th-month spring rice, quickly harvest the winter subsidiary food crop, and prepare seeds for short-term industrial crops for planting after the lunar new year festival.

—Southern provinces should quickly harvest the 10th-month rice crop and speed up the winter-spring rice planting. Quang Nam-Da Nang, Binh Dinh, and Nghia Binh Provinces must strive to eliminate rats in ricefields to effectively protect the rice crops.

Agricultural, Food Production Seminar Opens

BK1801160990 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 18—A seminar on the agricultural and food production sector review was opened here this morning under the co-sponsorship of the State Planning Commission, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Present at the opening ceremony were Dong Si Nguyen, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Do Quoc San, first vice chairman of the State Planning Commission; David Smith and Svetlomir Zakhariev, representatives of UNDP and FAO respectively.

Taking the floor, Vice Chairman Dong Si Nguyen expressed sincere thanks to international organizations and foreign countries, especially UNDP and FAO, for their effective assistance to Vietnam's agricultural sector. He reaffirmed the country's policy to further broaden its international economic cooperation, especially in agriculture which is now facing a shortage of technical know-how, facilities and funds.

For his part, David Smith noted the increase of Vietnam's agricultural production in 1988 as compared to 1987, and the even more marked increase in 1989, and that there were exports of rice for the first time in many years. Referring to this agricultural sector review, he said, it constituted an "example of the excellent collaboration" between the Vietnamese Government, FAO, the World Bank and UNDP.

The project of the review of the agricultural sector has received an aid of more than 400,000 U.S. dollars from UNDP. It is aimed at reviewing the country's agricultural and food production sector and identifying bottlenecks in production. The output of the project will be a draft strategy for the development of the sector.

Australia

Evans Expresses Optimism for Cambodian Settlement

BK2301073190 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0700 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Australia's foreign minister, Senator Gareth Evans, has expressed optimism about prospects for a negotiated settlement in Cambodia. Arriving at Parliament House in Canberra for the first federal cabinet meeting of the year, Senator Evans said Australia's proposal for a United Nations role in Cambodia had broken some of the diplomatic ice on the issue. The foreign minister said that while there remained an awfully long way to travel, things were looking much better than they were late last year.

Senator Evans today briefed Prime Minister Bob Hawke on the progress of the Australian initiative which proposes a United Nations interim administration in Cambodia in the lead-up to free elections.

New Zealand

Police Anticipate Trouble at Commonwealth Games

BK2201033690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0211 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Auckland, New Zealand, Jan 22 (AFP)—New Zealand's traditionally unarmed police force has taken up automatic weapons and Army commando SWAT teams are on stand-by for "anticipated trouble" at the Commonwealth Games which open here Wednesday [24 January].

One quarter of Auckland's 4,000 policemen are on permanent games duty and the rest, along with an unspecified number of volunteer auxiliaries—some of them retired officers—are waiting to back them up, according to games security spokesman Tony Bouchier.

"We are anticipating some form of trouble, probably in the shape of demonstrations," he said, referring to Maori activists who say they will agitate during the 11-day games which end on February 3.

But the Maoris, campaigning for the restoration of land rights, say they will be saving their main protest action for February 6, New Zealand's national day, and games security men have been preparing for a more serious threat to the games.

"Security is low key, but if something happens we will be ready for it," said Bouchier, a senior sergeant seconded from the Auckland Police Force to work full time on the games three years ago. [passage omitted]

Papua New Guinea

Australia Ready To Evacuate Nationals in PNG

BK1901105390 Hong Kong AFP in English 0832 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Port Moresby, Jan 19 (AFP)—Australia was prepared to evacuate its nationals from Papua New Guinea's [PNG] troubled Bougainville Province, Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said here Friday [19 January].

Mr. Evans told a news conference that recent events on the island, including the wounding of three Australian nationals this week, had "heightened risks." But he said any Australian action would be restricted to the evacuation of its nationals and would preclude involvement in any Papua New Guinea operations against militant forces on Bougainville. Australia agreed with Papua New Guinea at the end of the two-day joint ministerial forum, which opened here Thursday bringing together senior ministers of both countries, to a Port Moresby request for help in training an additional 600 soldiers this year.

Mr. Evans, here for the joint ministerial talks, said the new project—an apparent revision of the defence cooperation program between Australia and its former U.N. trust territory—would bring the strength of the Papua New Guinea Defence Force to 3,800 at the end of 12 months, adding a fourth rifle company.

Australia's contribution would include the provision of basic equipment and uniforms, as well as Australian personnel to assist with training. The cost to Canberra would be between seven million Australian dollars (five million U.S.) and 12 million dollars (nine million U.S.). The annual defence cooperation program budget would be increased to 50 million dollars (40 million U.S.) in the 1990-91 year to June 30 from 41 million dollars (32 million U.S.) in 1989-90.

Papua New Guinea Defence Minister Benais Sabumei said the country's defence force was seriously understrength and short on supplies. Mr. Sabumei said the current force of 600 soldiers on Bougainville was inadequate to flush out militants—they have been fighting a 13 month guerrilla war against the government—and maintain security. Papua New Guinea's 1,000 infantrymen were split between operations on Bougainville—where a state of emergency was declared last June—and routine patrols along the border with the Indonesian province of Irian Jaya, he said. Mr. Sabumei said the army could not neutralise the militant uprising, and guard vital installations at the same time.

"We can't be the police force, we are in the bush," Mr. Sabumei said, adding "it is a task beyond our present resources." "We recognise the fact that, as government, a military approach is not going to stop the (Bougainville) problem," he said. "I have accepted that it is not a problem that's going to be settled in six months, two years or five years," Mr. Sabumei said.

Government Accepts Australian Training Offer

BK2001073090 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Jan 90

[Text] Papua New Guinea Government ministers have accepted an Australian offer to train 600 soldiers for the Defense Forces. Ministers at the 2-day Papua New Guinea-Australia ministerial forum in Port Moresby agreed to the aid project, subject to approval by the cabinets of both governments.

The training program will cost Australia between $7 and $12 million, while Papua New Guinea will pay for the wages and other costs of enlisting the extra men.

Australia's defense minister, Mr Beazley, says the program is not intended to provide troops specifically for the Bougainville insurgency. However, a Radio Australia correspondent in Port Moresby, Stewart Heather, says that the troops could be trained within a year and would be available for service on the island. He also reports that contingency plans have been drawn up for the evacuation of estimated 1,500 Australians on Bougainville.

The owners of the Panguna copper mine, Bougainville Copper Limited, said they are stepping up security and working to get employees off the island as soon as possible because of increasing violence involving militant land owners.

In a latest incident, an Australian journalist, Mark Baker, was slightly wounded in a shoulder when a helicopter he was a passenger in came under fire on Bougainville.

More Violence in Bougainville Province Reported

'Rebels' Torch Buildings

BK2201071790 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Jan 90

[Text] Rebels on the troubled Papua New Guinea island of Bougainville have struck again this time in the large coastal town of Arawa. Radio Australia's Port Moresby correspondent, Rob Rushkie, says the rebels are reported to have torched a big supermarket and warehouse in the town causing nearly three quarters of a million dollars damage. He said that while the fire raged, security forces noticed rebels on a ridge overlooking the scene and fired on them. There were no reports of casualties.

The Papua New Guinea defense minister, Mr Benais Sabumei, says his government was now reviewing its resources in a bid to increase security force strength on the island. He said the 700 troops already on Bougainville were not enough to control the situation.

Three Shot To Death

BK2301061490 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Jan 90

[Text] Another three people have been shot dead on the troubled Papua New Guinea island of Bougainville. Security forces claimed the three were rebels who died during intense fighting yesterday between government troops and militants in separate incidents near the Panguna copper mine.

A Radio Australia correspondent, Rob Rushkie, reports that two of them were killed in one of the cashes at (Girinpuri). A village elder denies that the two were rebels, saying they were innocent teenagers running to investigate the gunfire. Our correspondent says government troops are intensifying patrols in remote areas where thousands of villagers support the militants and their fight for secession.

Meanwhile, there are fears the unrest in Bougainville could lead to influx of refugees into neighboring Solomon Islands. The Solomon Islands opposition leader, Mr (Andrew Nori), has called on the country's government to develop a refugee policy for what he said was a possible influx of people from Bougainville.

Government Group To Negotiate With Landowners

BK1901092490 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] A senior government delegation is on its way to the Ok Tedi copper and gold mine in western Papua New Guinea for talks with landowners who shut down the operation yesterday.

Yesterday about 2,000 landowners blocked the road from the Ok Tedi Township, (Tabubil), stopping the morning shift from reaching the mine or the mill. They were protesting what they said was government inaction on the renegotiation of a proposed economic package.

An Ok Tedi spokesman said the landowners have promised to reopen the road when the delegation arrives.

The deputy prime minister Mr Akoka Doi, has warned the landowners their action was illegal and would not be tolerated. AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS quotes Mr Doi as saying the landowners themselves were to blame for the (?loss) as they have not responded with a counterproposal as expected.

Ok Tedi Mining Limited is owned by the Australian company BHP, (Amalco), the Papua New Guinea Government, and a West German consortium.